

FAIRY TAIL 63



Hiro Mashima

FAIRY TAIL



63

HIRO MASHIMA



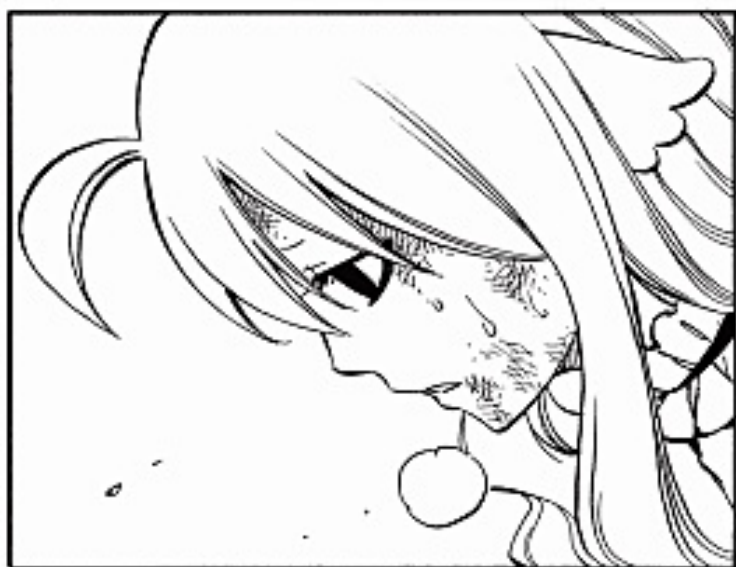
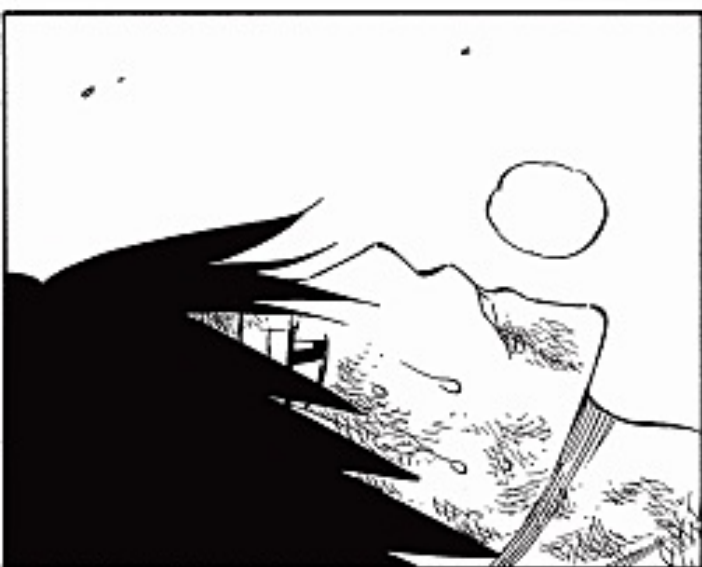
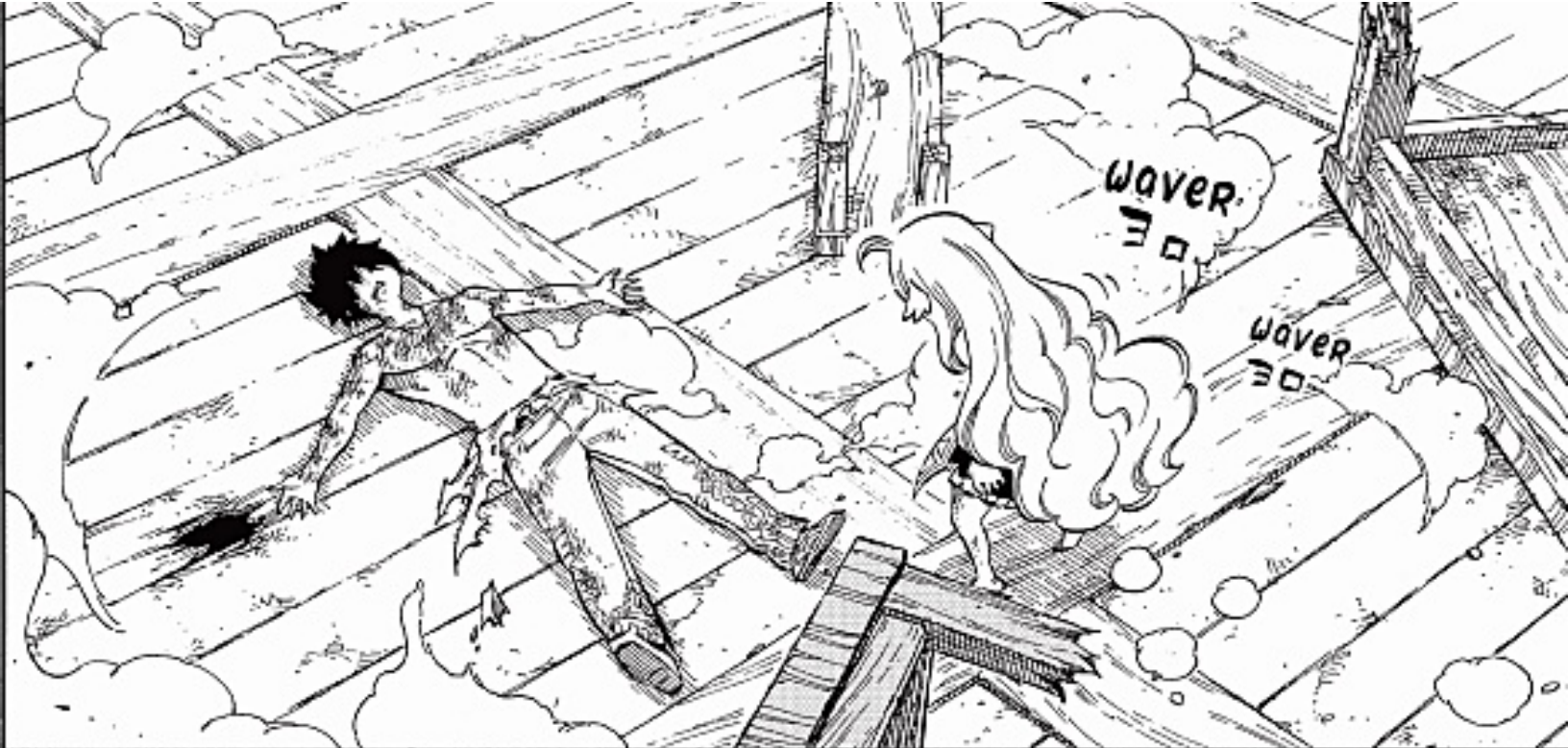
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FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 537: The Power of Life





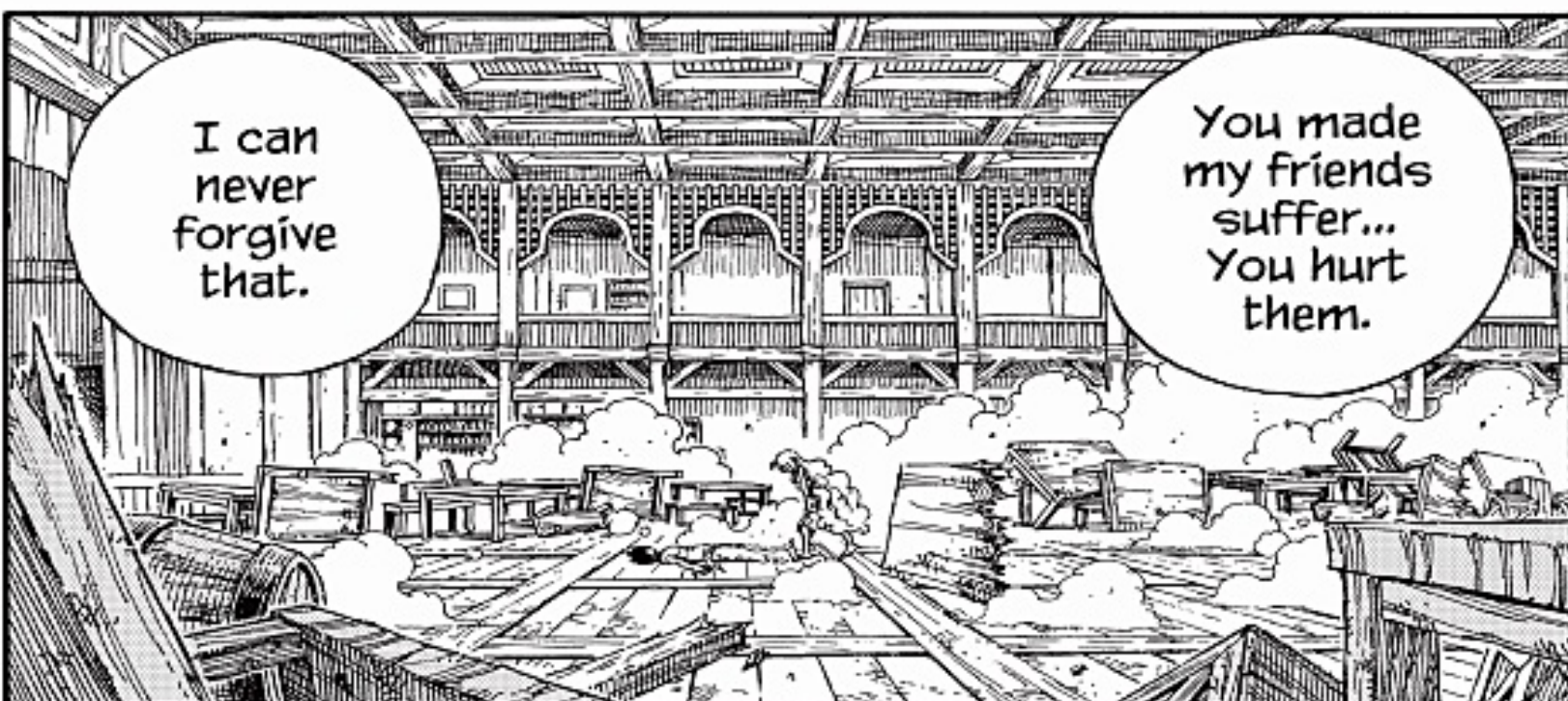


Zeref...



But...he's underestimating me...and my powers of revival...

These wounds will be completely healed in a few minutes.



I can never forgive that.

You made my friends suffer... You hurt them.



I want to help you permanently leave this world.

And not as someone who believes the bonds of a guild are thicker than blood.

Not as the first master of Fairy Tail.



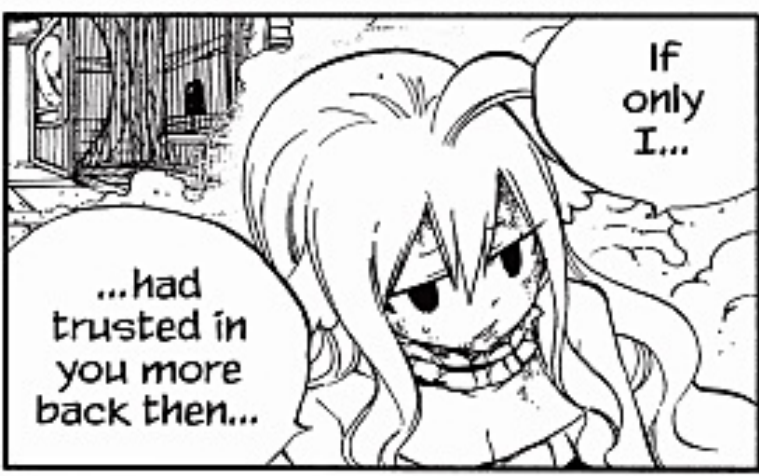


You can rest now. Welcome sleep's embrace.



But I...

You know, it wouldn't be so bad being killed by you.



...had trusted in you more back then...

If only I...



If... that were possible...



That proves that you truly loved me.

Your curse of contradiction took my life.



What are you... talking about...?







You hurt my friends...



You brought death...

...and you turned my fate into *this*!



It's because I'm the only one who feels the same loneliness as you.

I'm the only one who can understand!

I hate you for that, and still...

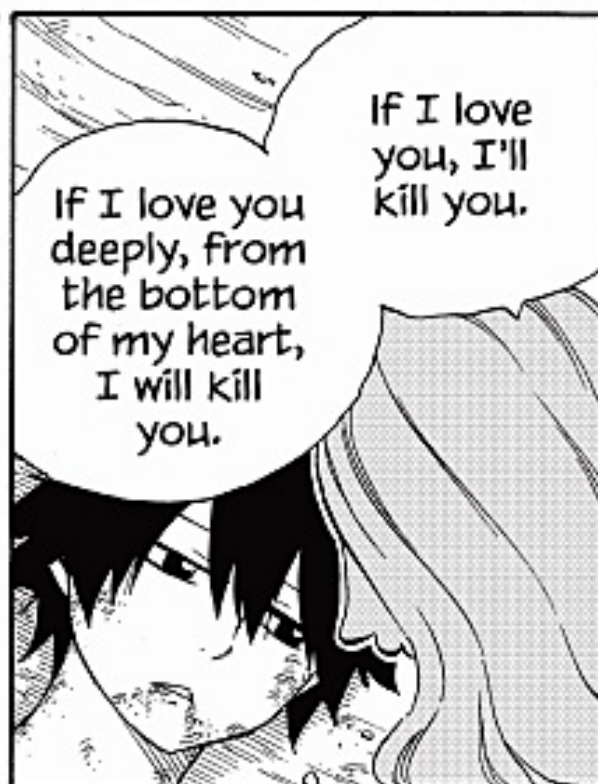
...I love you!



That was... my strategy, and yet...



PLIP



If I love you, I'll kill you.

If I love you deeply, from the bottom of my heart, I will kill you.

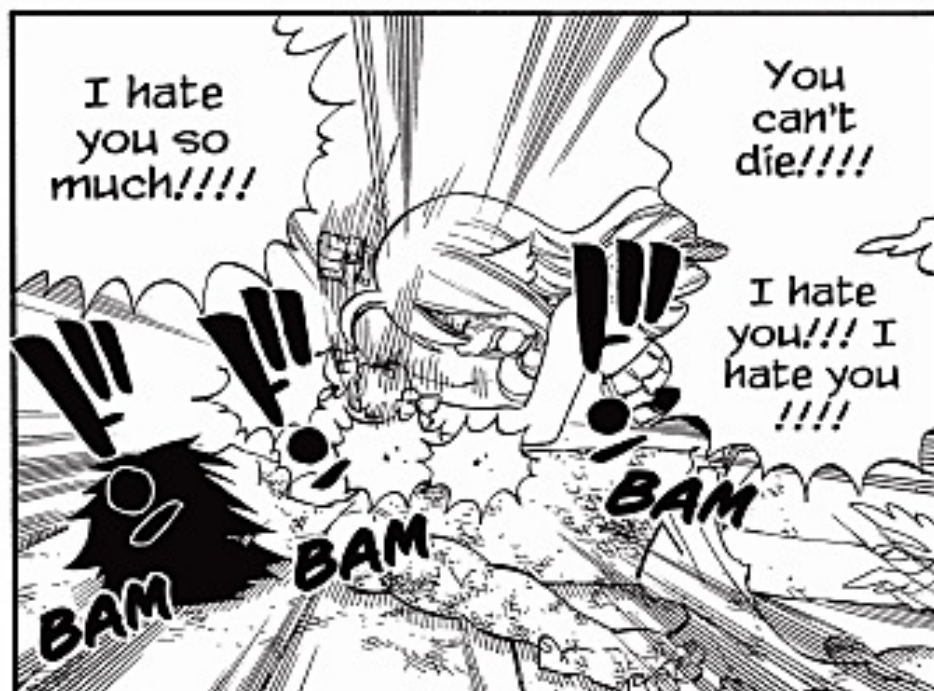


My thoughts are a mess of contradictions...

I can't make sense of it!

Mavis...





So hurry
up and die
already!!!!

Díe!!!
Díe!!!
Díe!!!
Díe!!!!

I have
no love
for you at
all!!!!

I never
want to
see you
again!!!!

You're
the enemy of
my guild!
The enemy
of the whole
world!!!!

I don't
love you!!!
I don't love
you!!!!

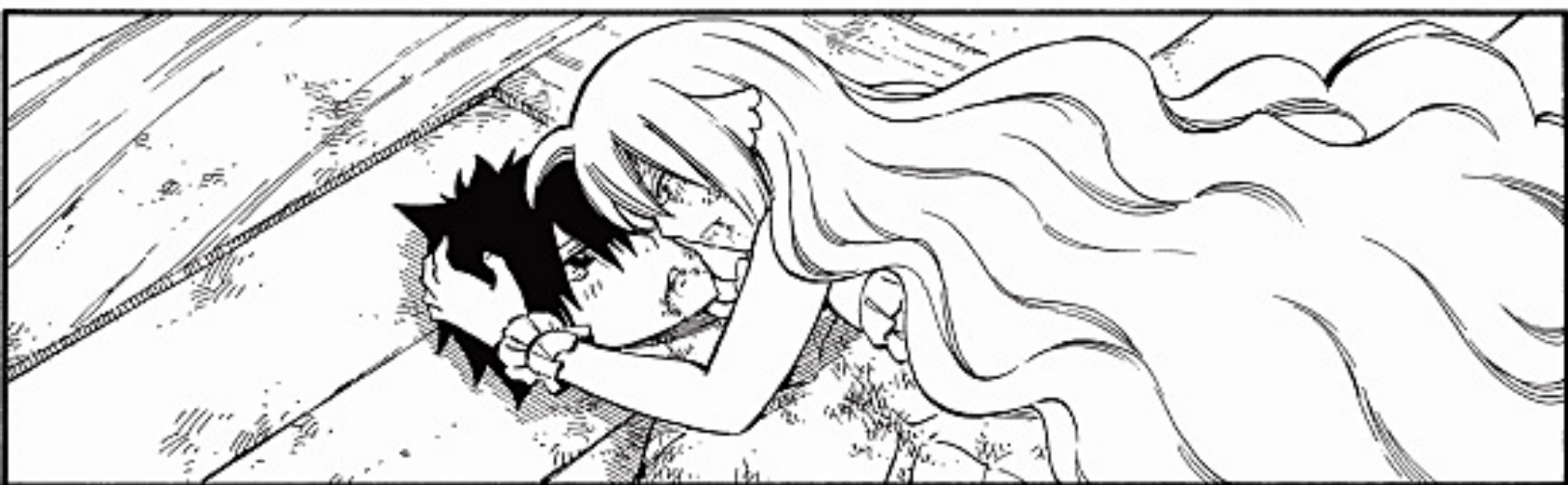
...please...

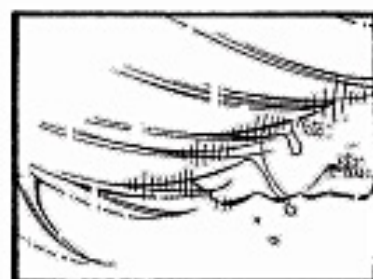
So...



...die!

*...don't
die...*



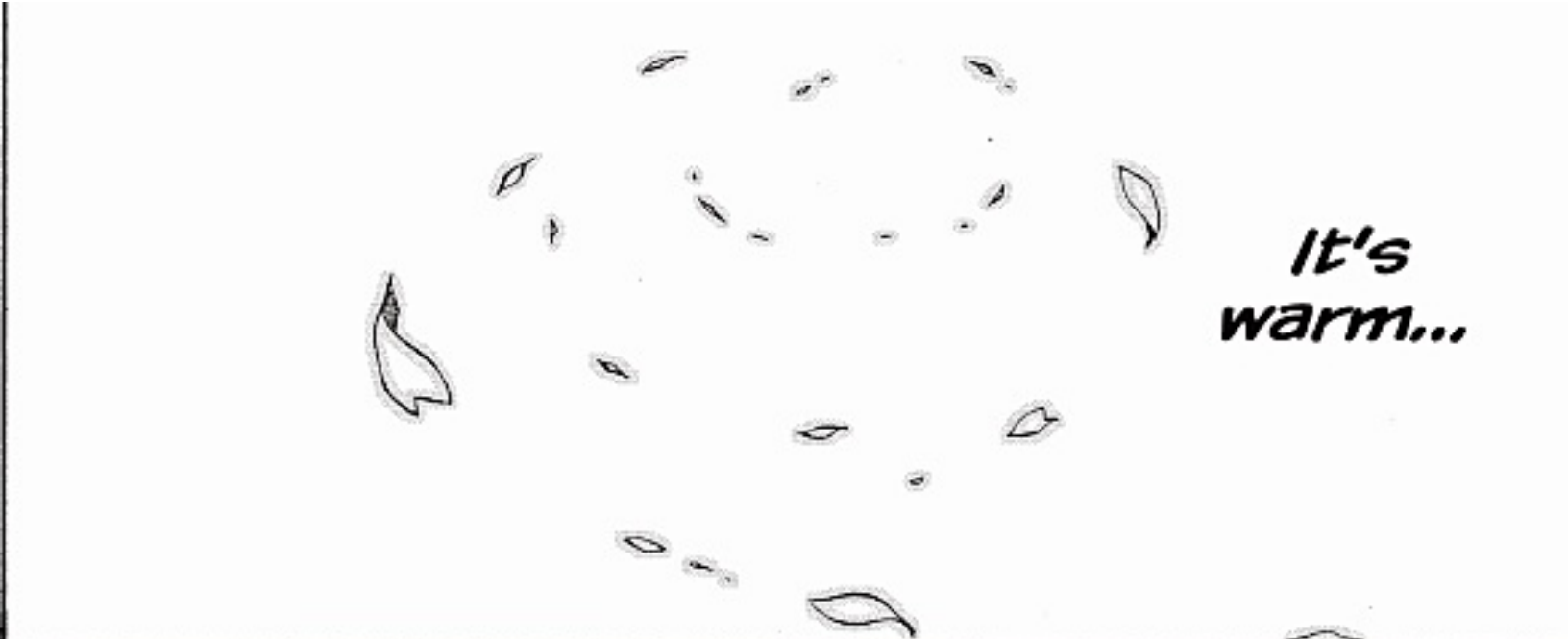


***Let's go
together,
Zeref!***

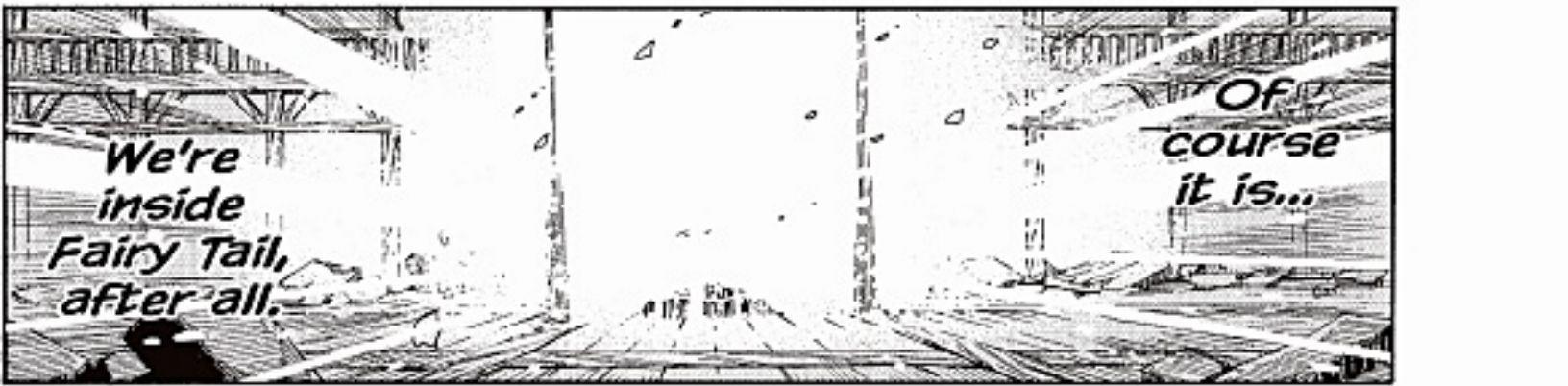




Mavis...



*It's
warm...*



*We're
inside
Fairy Tail,
after all.*

*Of
course
it is...*

*There is
one power
even an
immortal
being
cannot
overcome...*

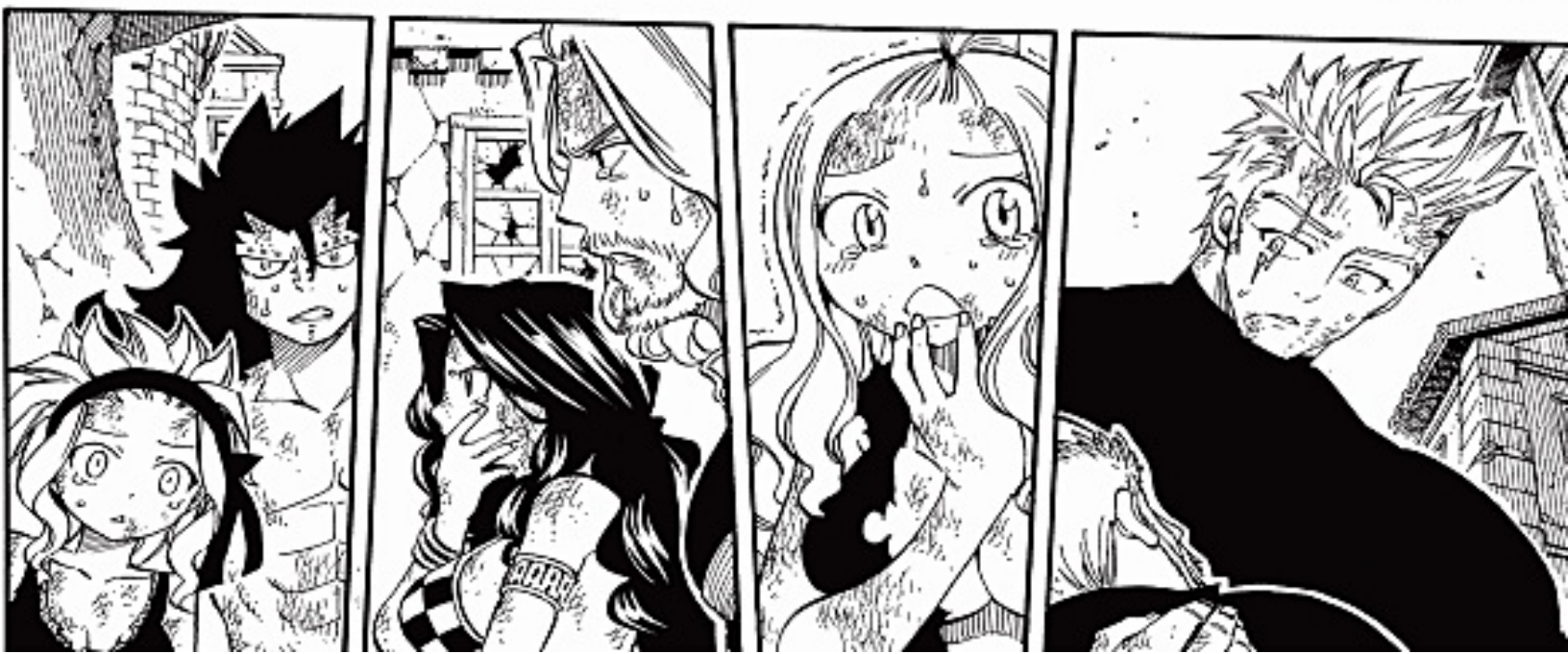
*This is
what it
feels
like to
die...*

*I
see...*

*And that
power
is love...*

*The magic
that unites
us all.*







You're
alive!!!

わあああ
YAAAY

Master
!!!

Gramps...

PLUP
PLUP
PLUP

There was
this warm
power of
life rushing
through me...

It
was such
a strange
dream I
had...



*And I saw
a barefoot
girl and
a boy in
black...*

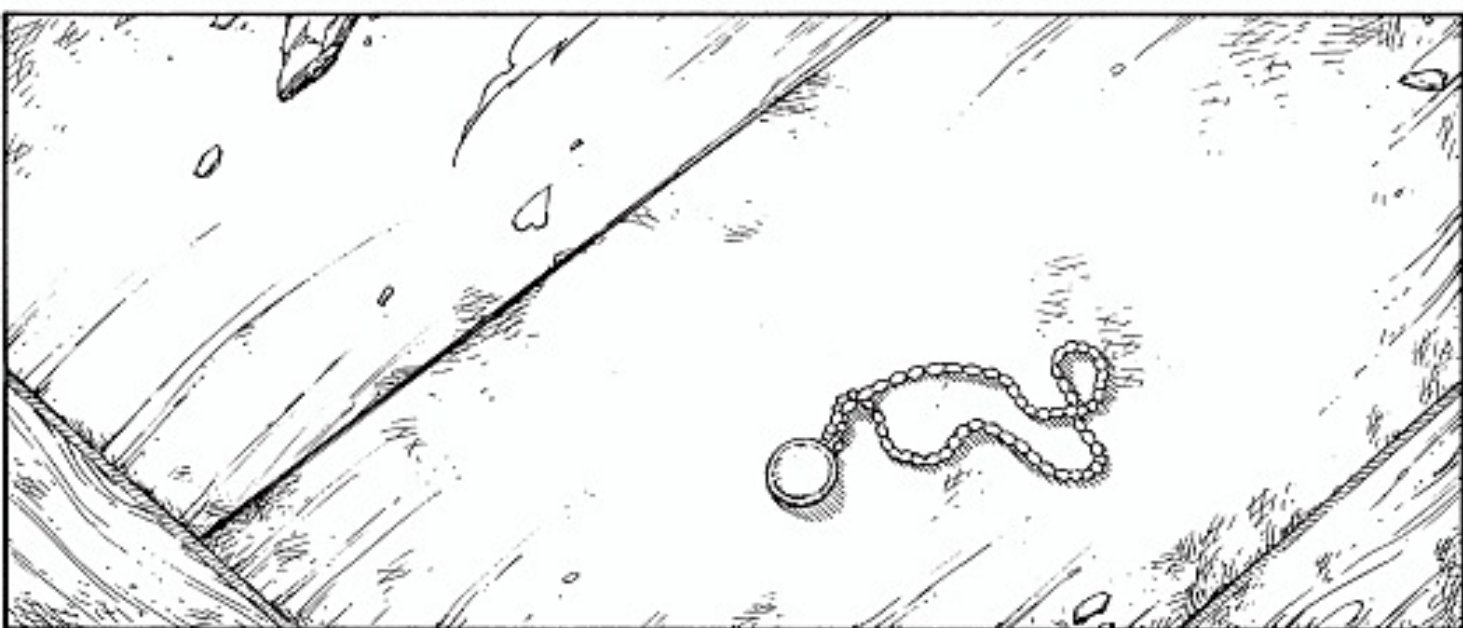
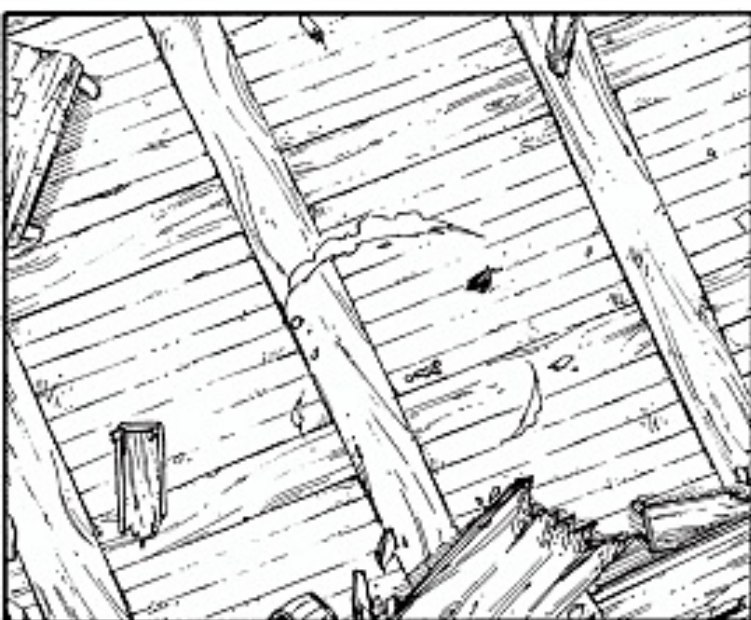
*...frolicking
in a field
together...*

FAIRY TAIL

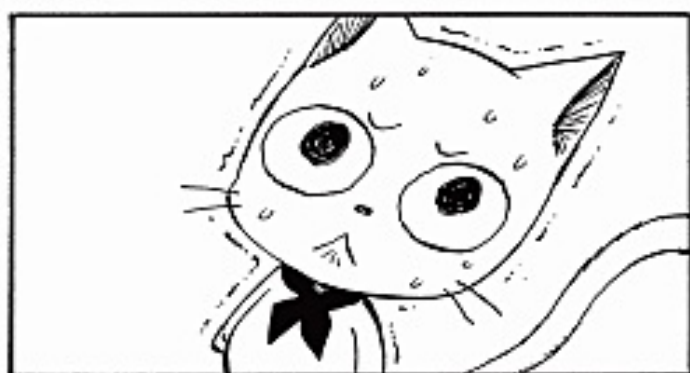
フェアリーテイル

Chapter 538: When the Flame Goes Out



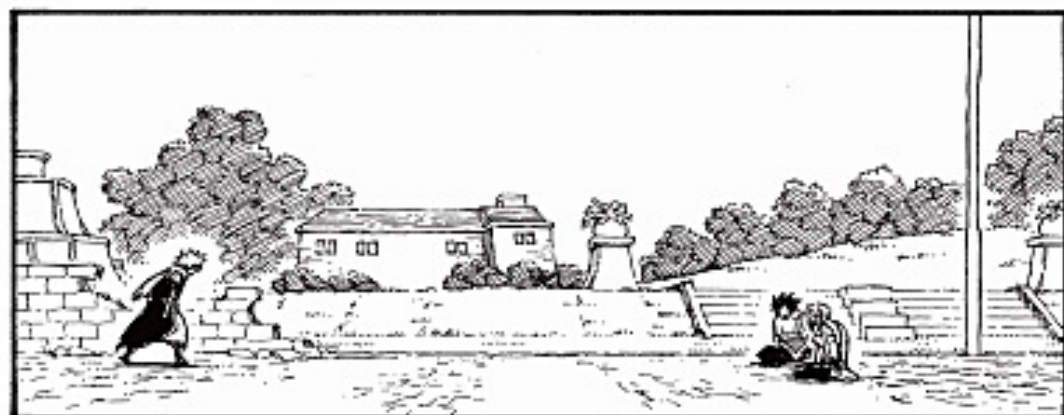
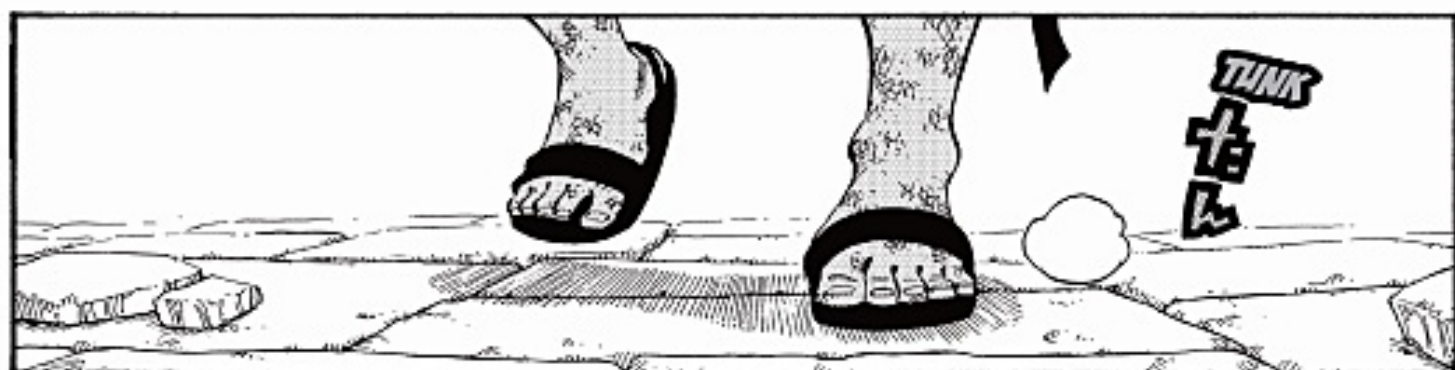






She altered a demonic tome.
I figured that might be dangerous...











I don't think
the first master
made it.



The
first
master...



...



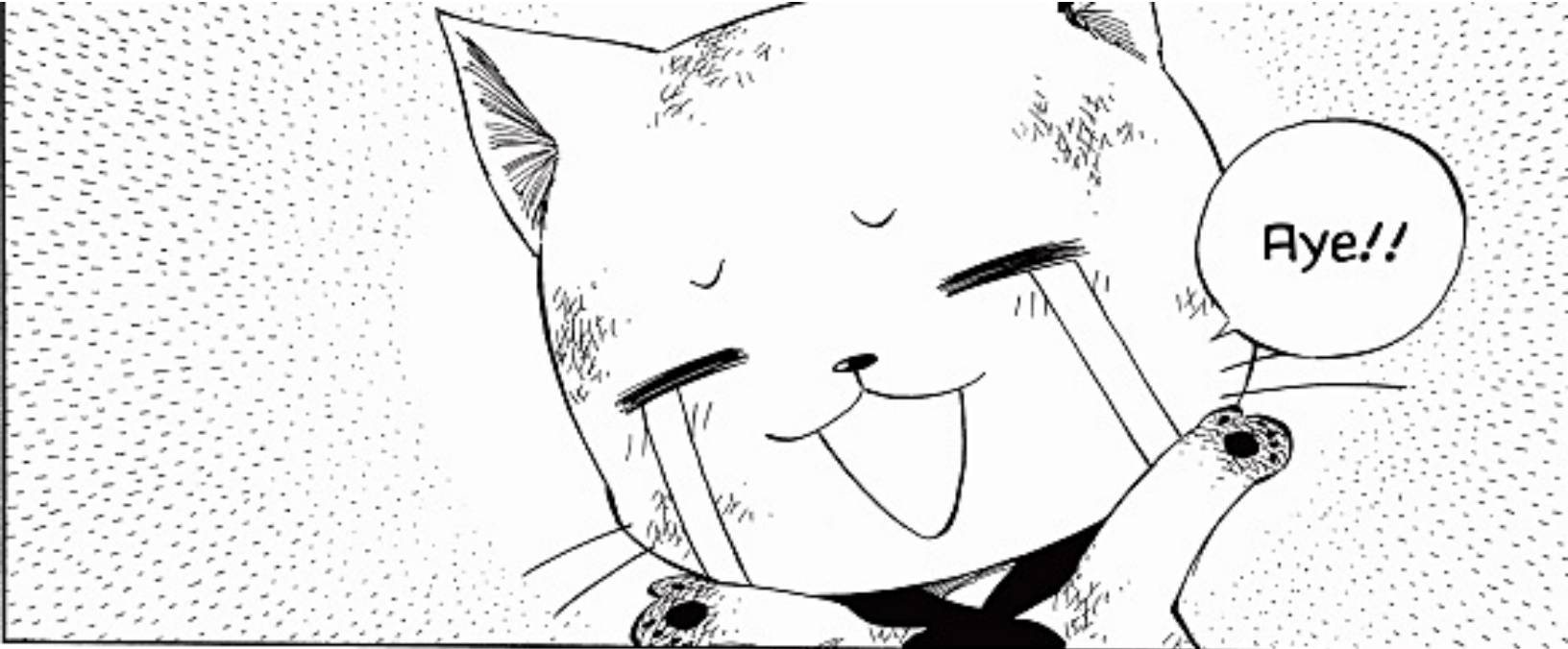
Huh?



I don't know how
I know this, but
I'm pretty sure the
first master wanted
things to end this
way...

But
you know...
I don't think
she'd want us
to get too sad
about it.









It looks
that way.



Did I...
really survive
that...?



Because
you still
have things
left to do
here!



Why... did
I...



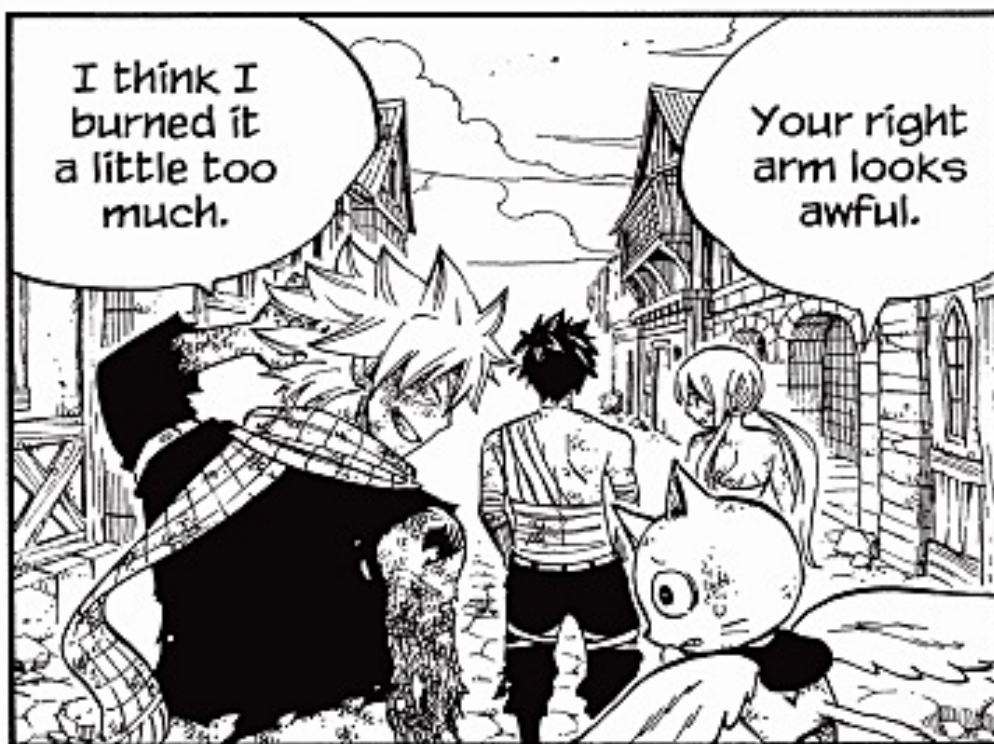
...



You have
to live
on...



...for Ichiya-
san and
Anna-san.



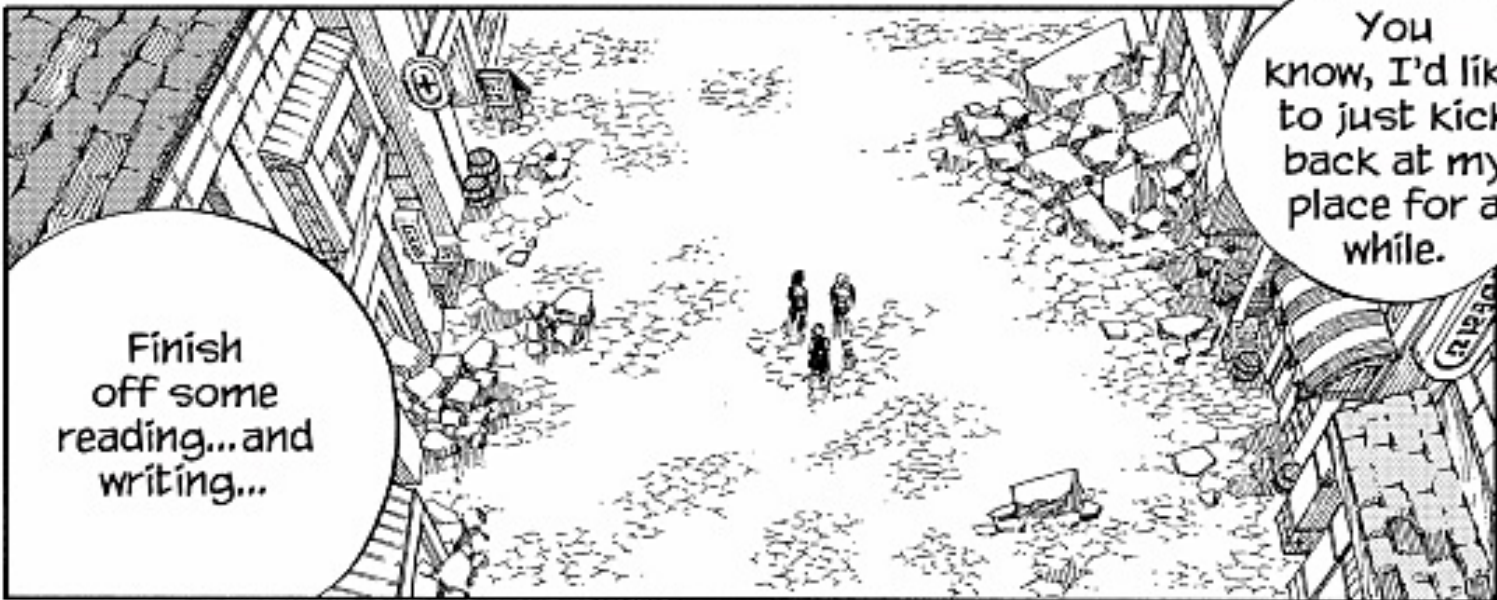


...It's
finally all
over, huh?



I was just
there, but
it still feels
like I've been
away too
long.

The guild's
coming into
sight.



Finish
off some
reading...and
writing...

You
know, I'd like
to just kick
back at my
place for a
while.



I owe
Juvia a huge
apology.

This one would be to find Aquarius's key.

Count me in!

Good idea.

After things calm down, I'd like to go out on another adventure.

Aye!

Come to think of it, wasn't there something you wanted to do when this battle was over?

A mermaid!

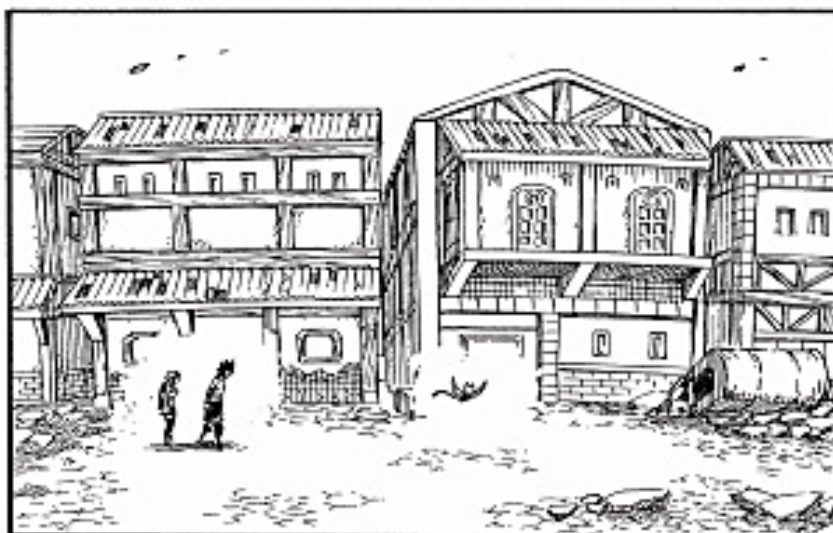
She's a fish-woman, right?!

Aye! I love fish!

Natsu?

Do you think we should tell them, Natsu...?





Natsu
!!!!

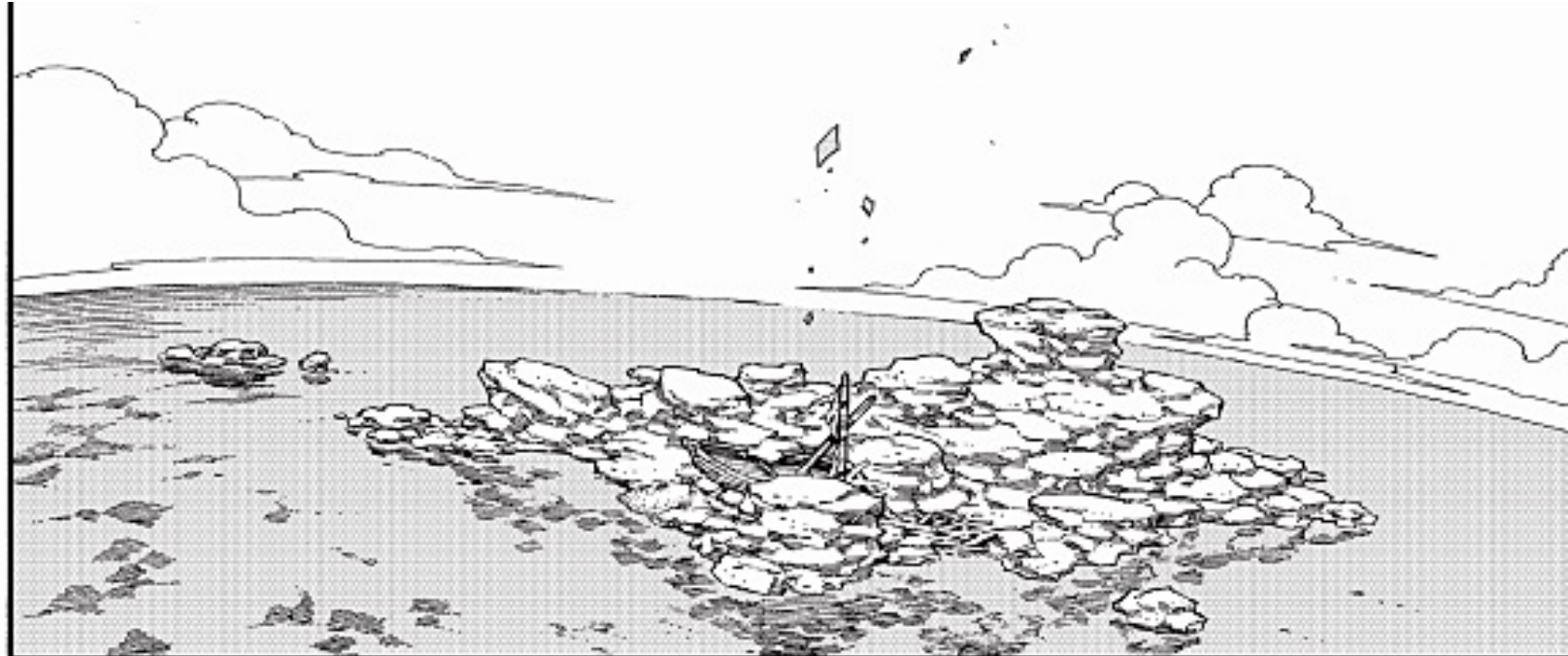


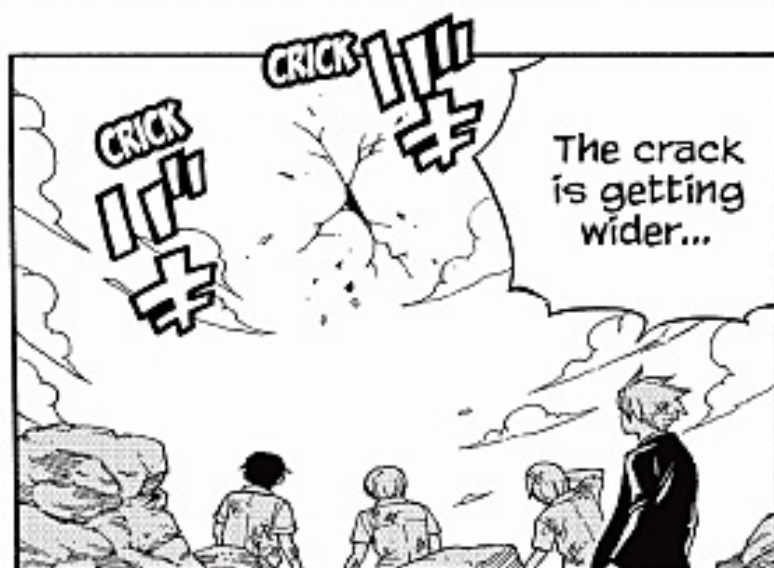
FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 539: World Destruction









SMASH



No...



RUMBLE

Like the time when I became...

...the ultimate dragon slayer!!!

Such power, surging within me!!

RUMBLE

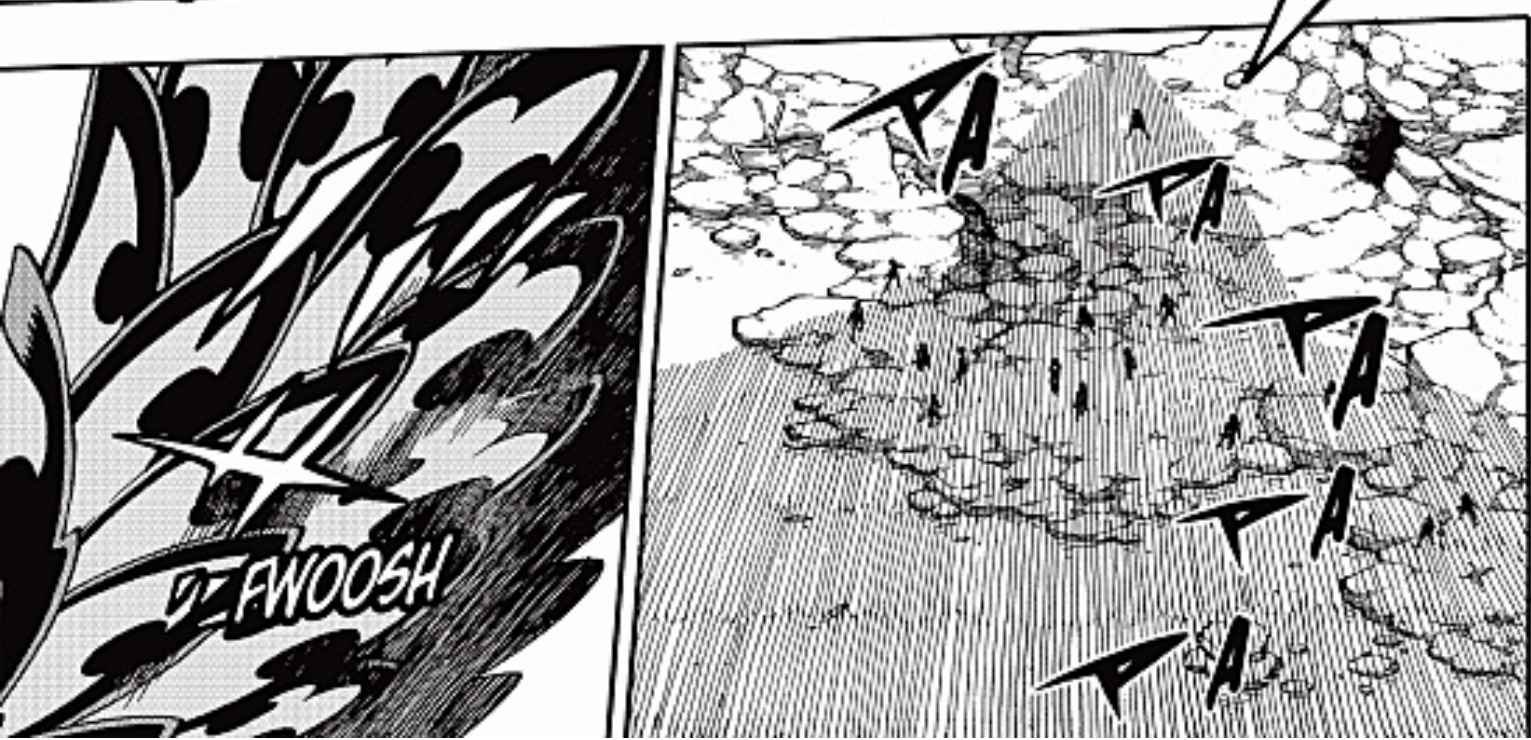
RUMBLE

RUMBLE

RUMBLE



I was a king
before, but
now I reign
supreme!!!



FWOOSH



This
entire
world
belongs
to me!!!

GLEAM



GLEAM

GLEAM

The power is
too great! I
can't control
it!

Ohh...

The space
between
time...

He ate
it...?!

This is
the magic
of time...

The
power
of time
!!!

Does this
mean...

TREMBLE
TREMBLE

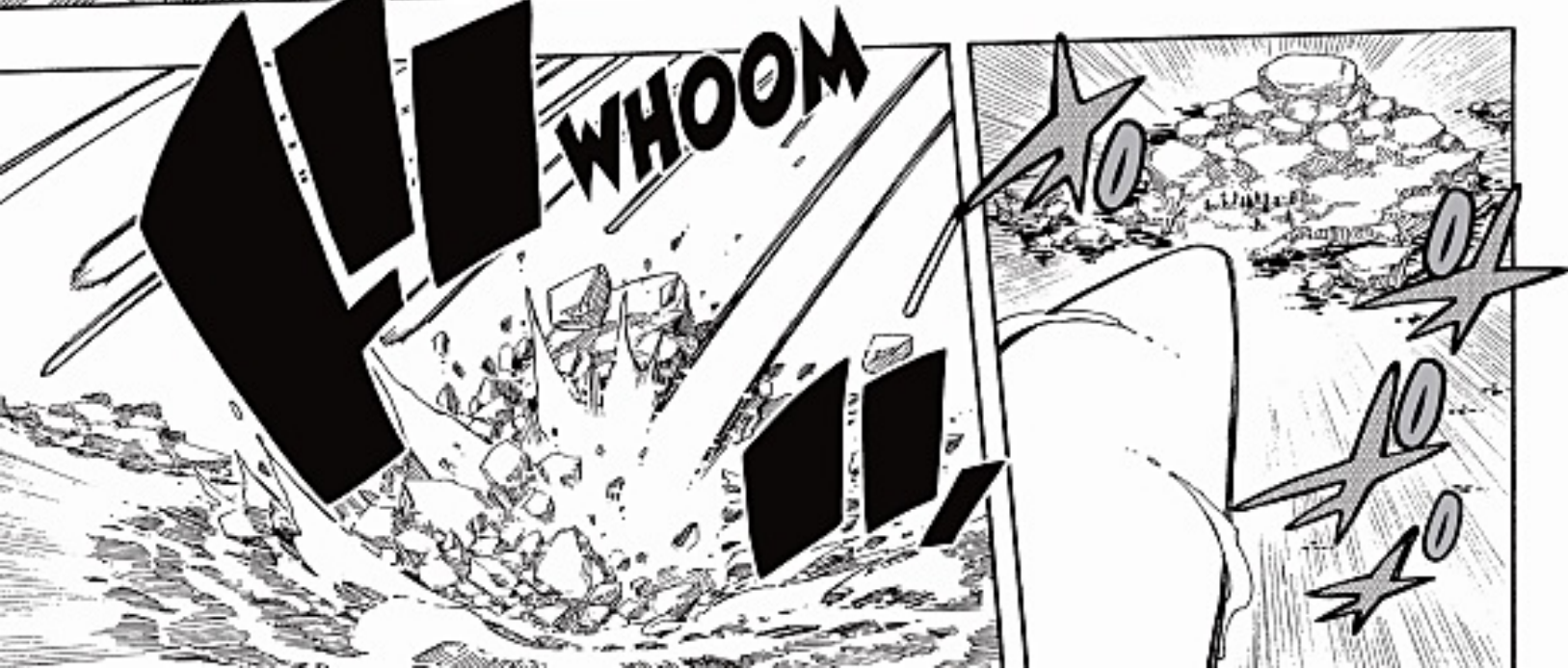
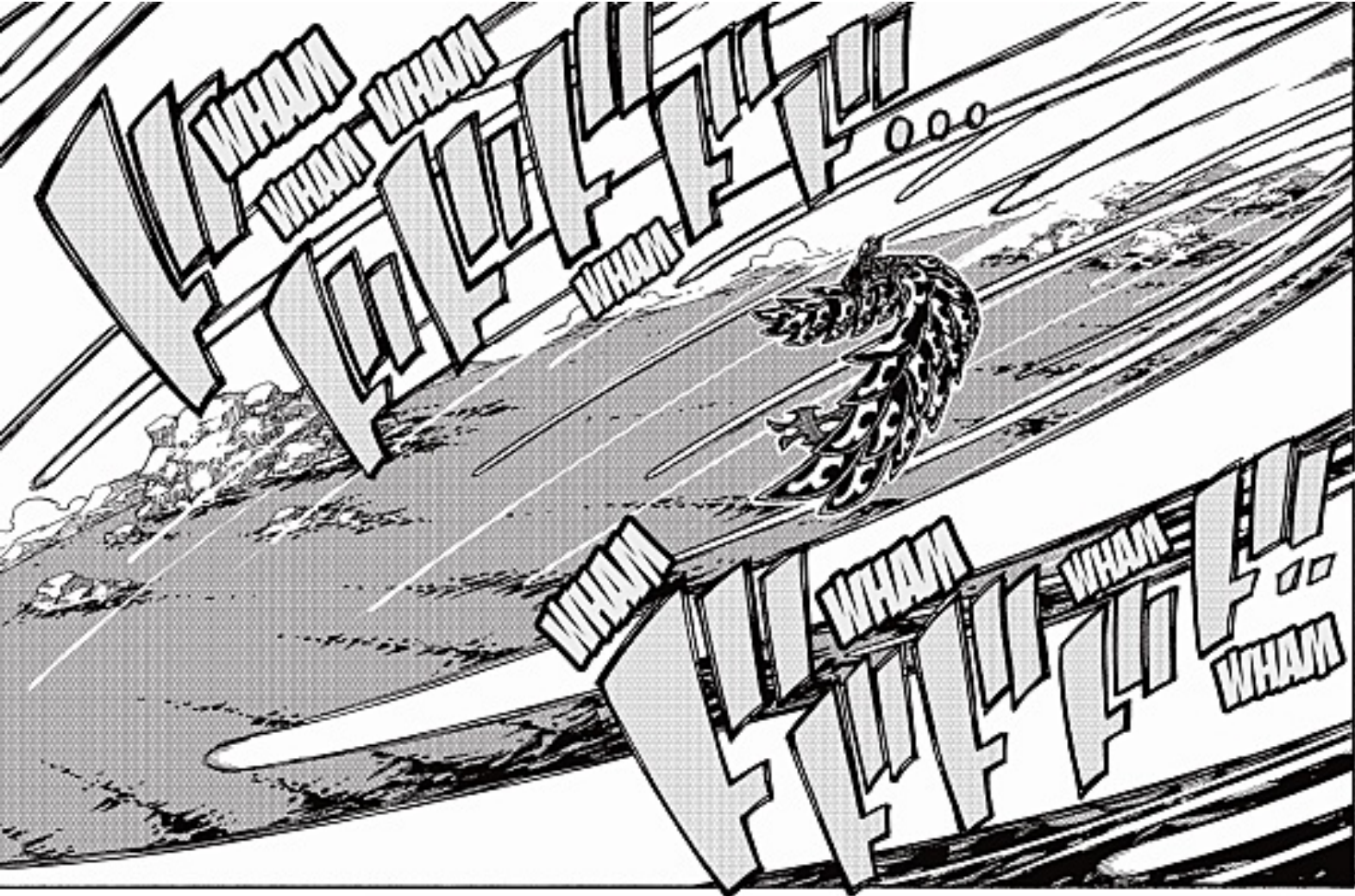




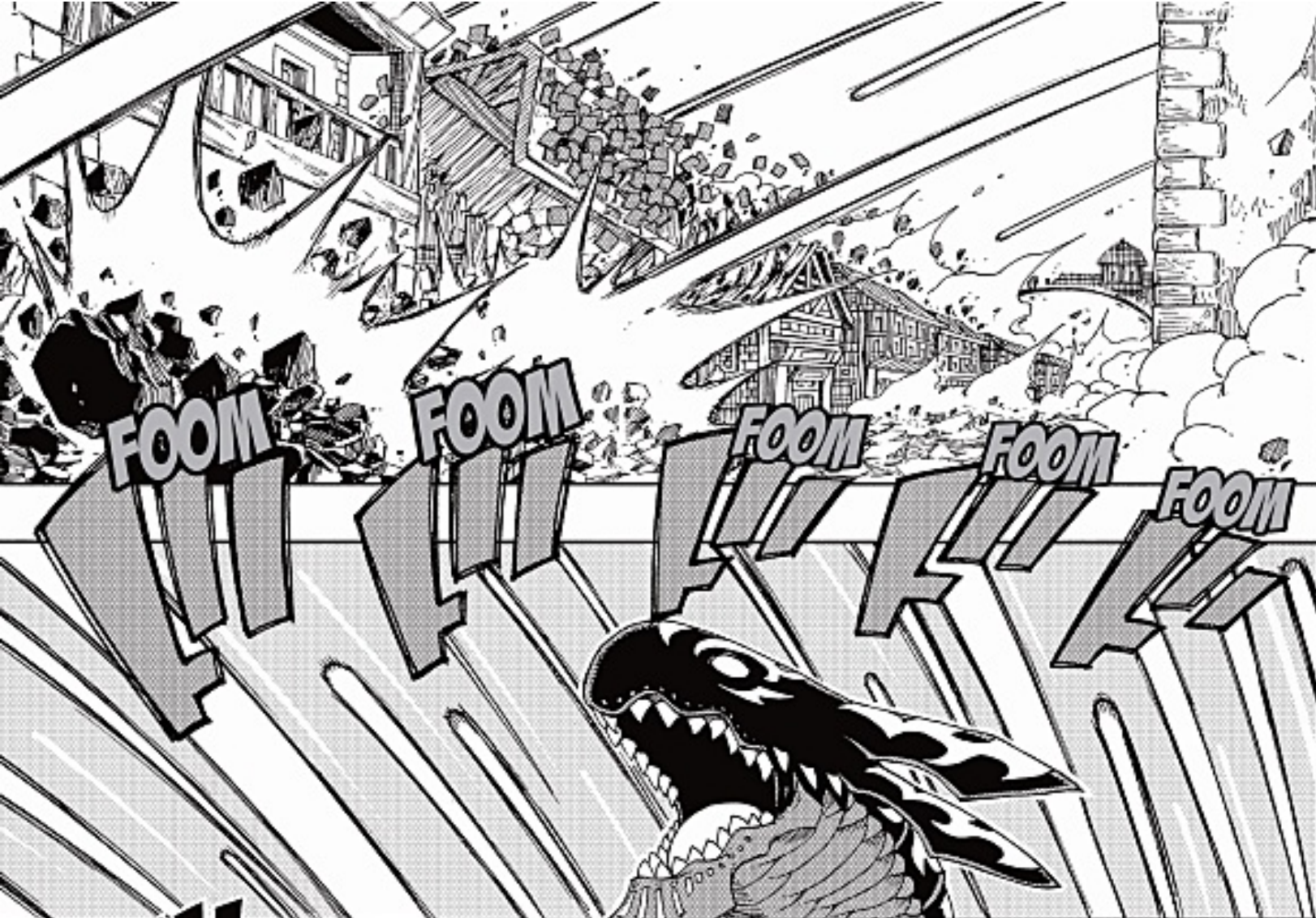
**Meet
your doom,
humanity!!!**

SHUING

**ETERNAL
FLARE!!!**

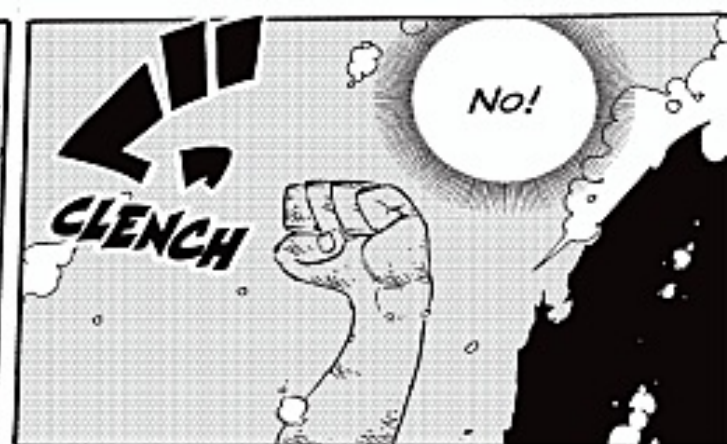
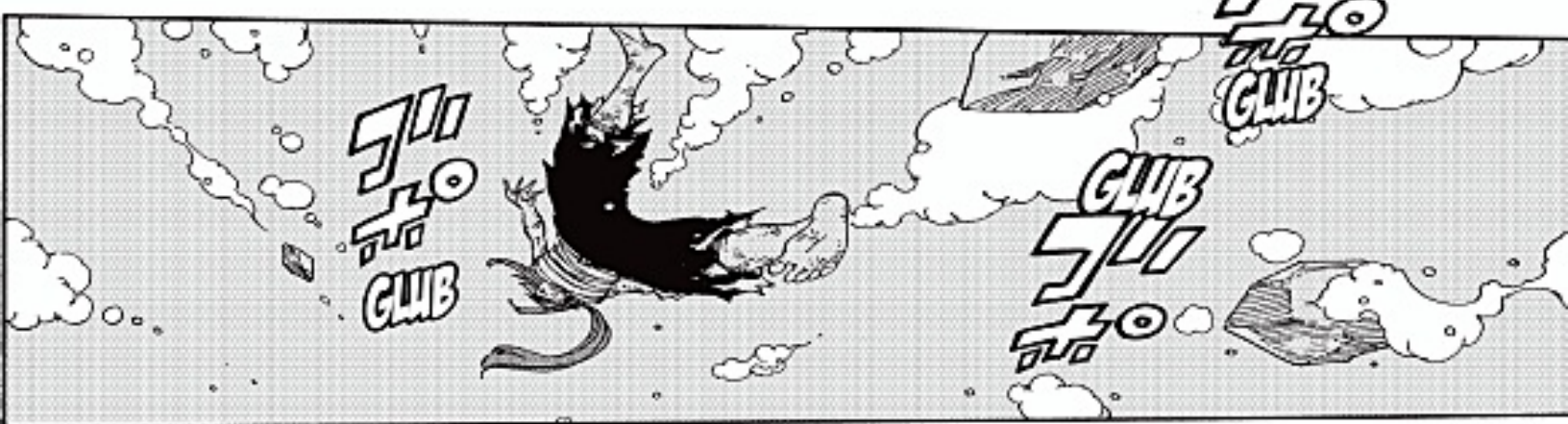
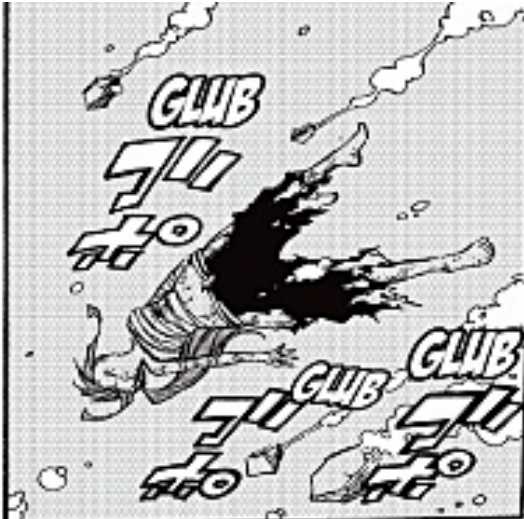


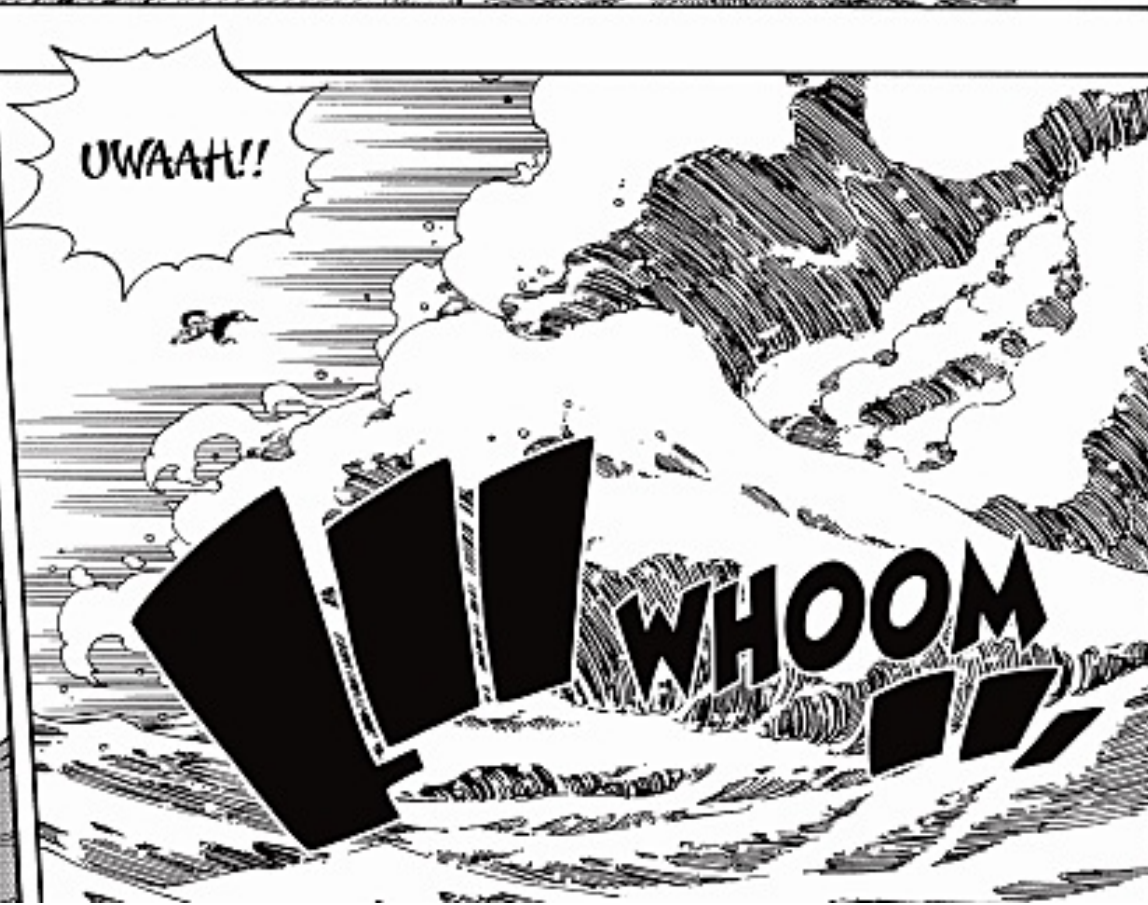


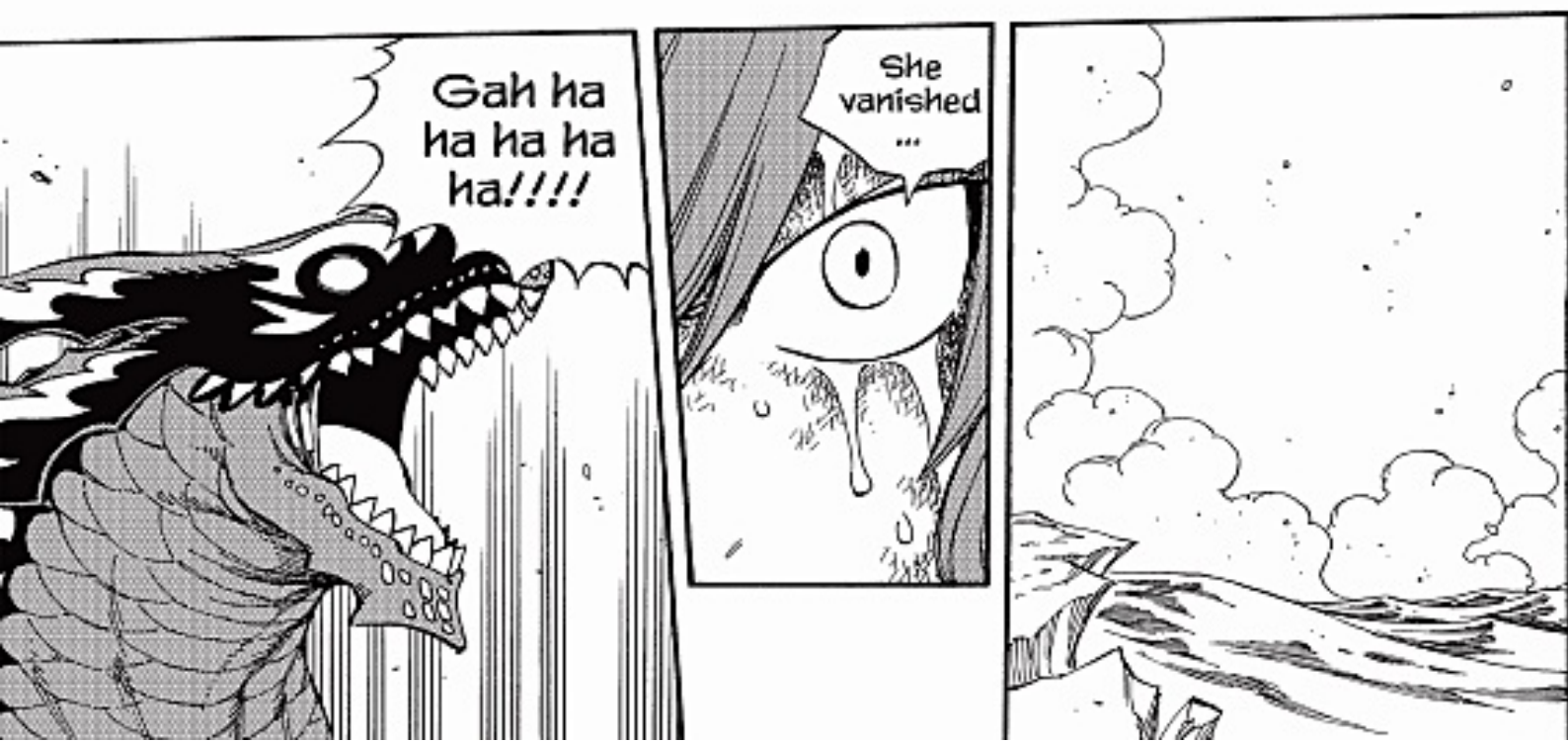
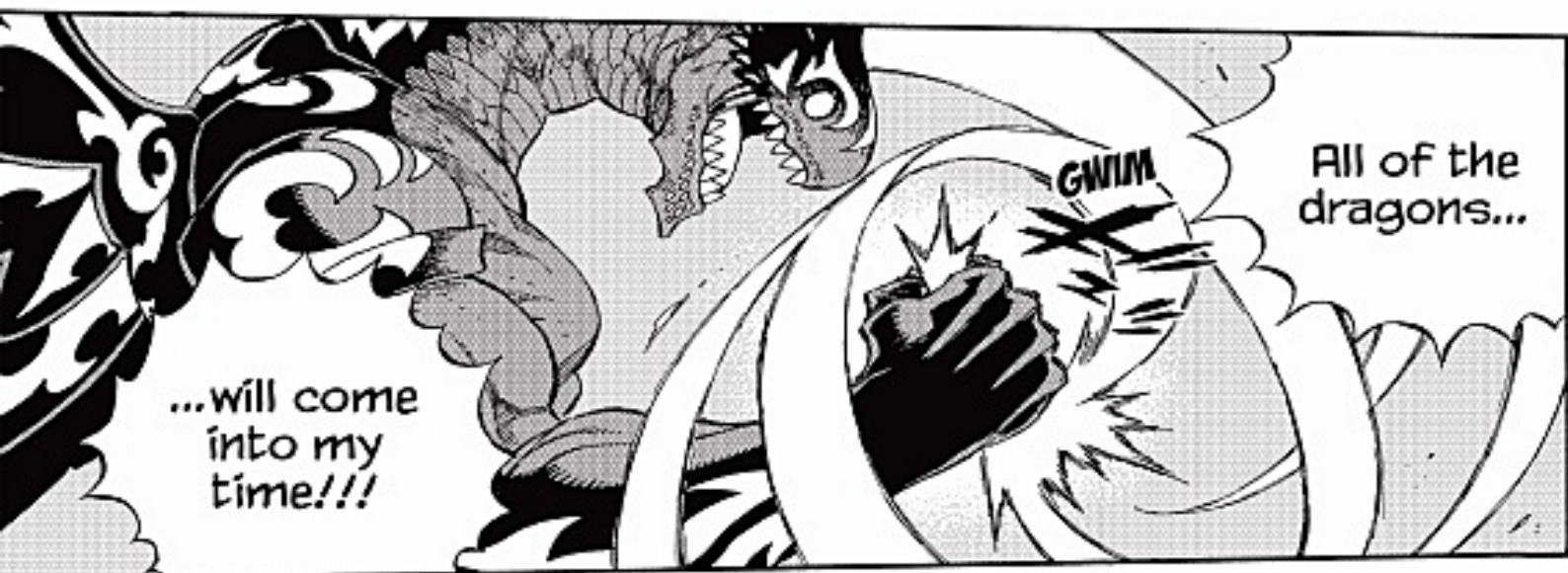






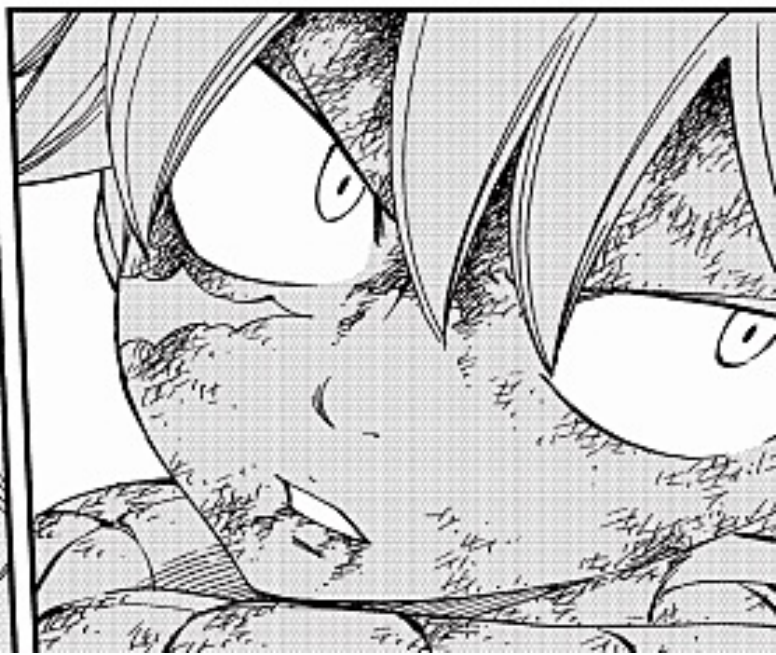










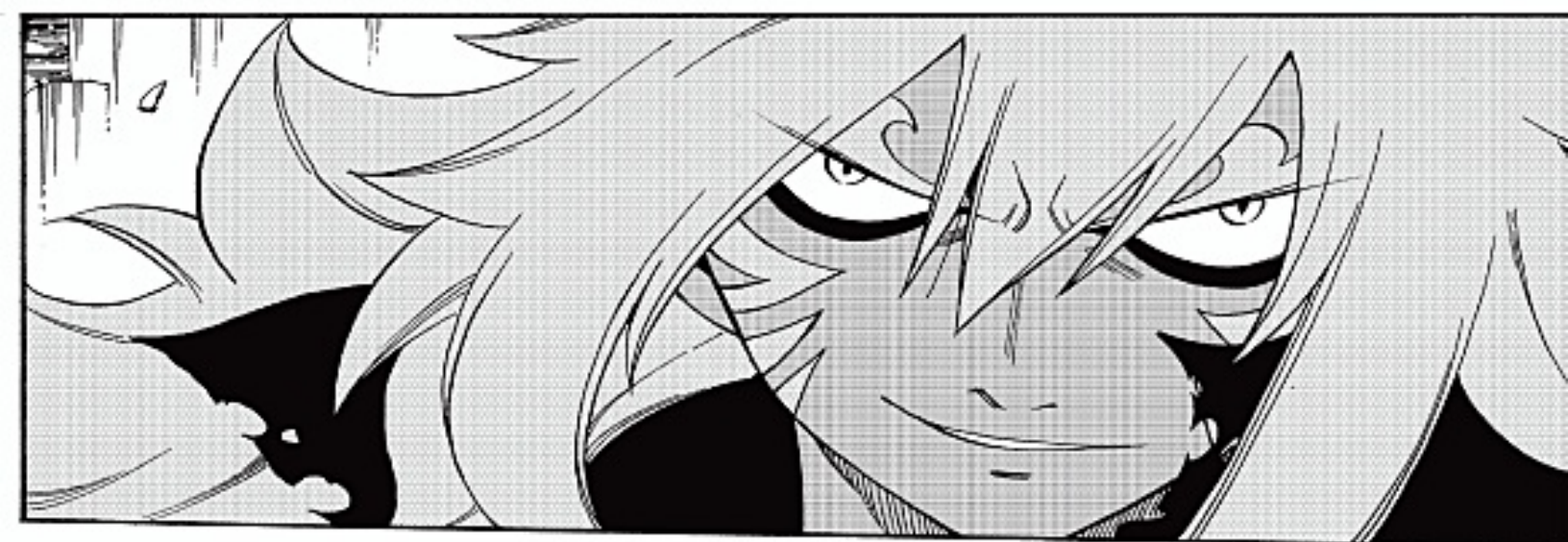
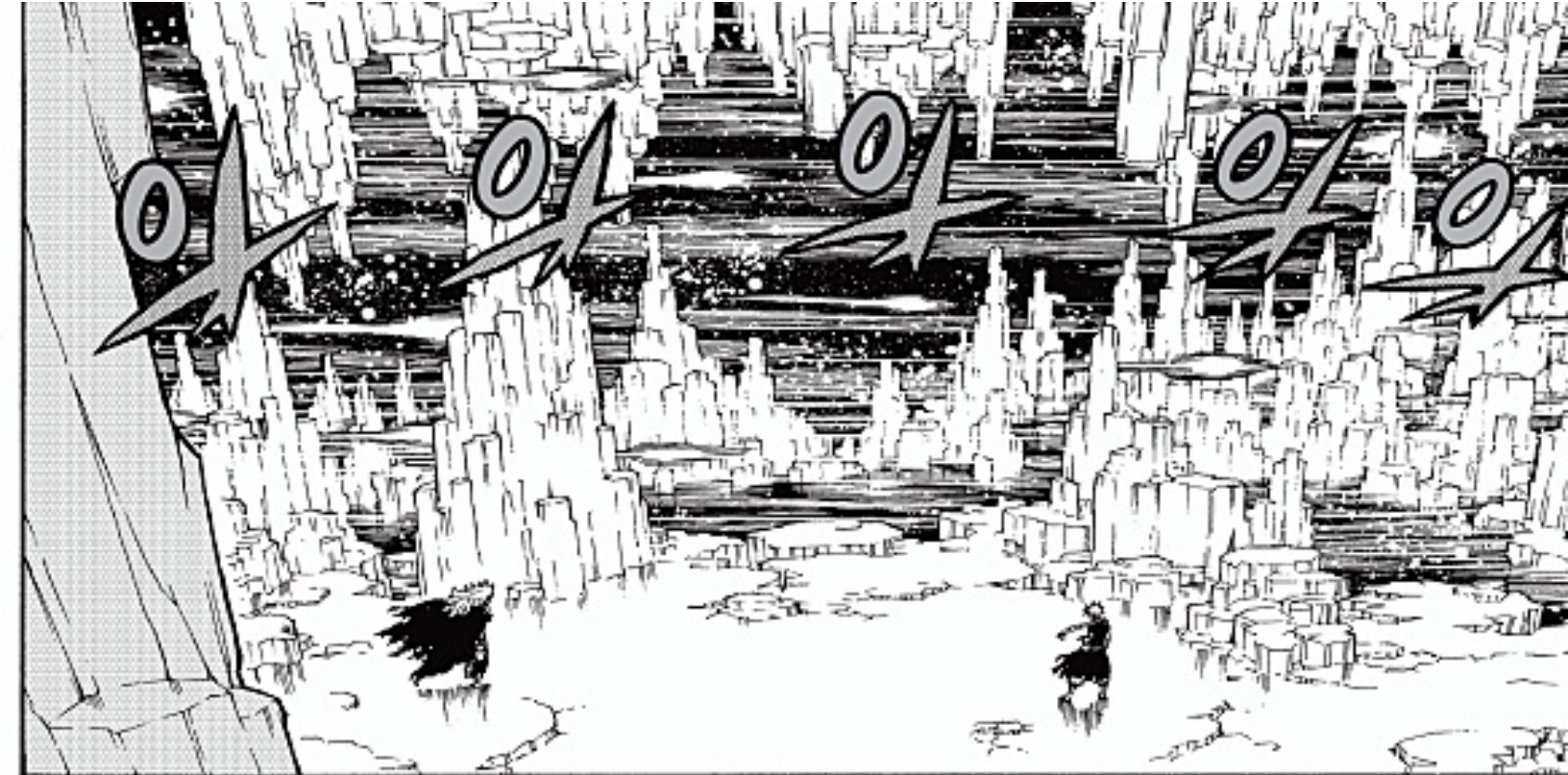


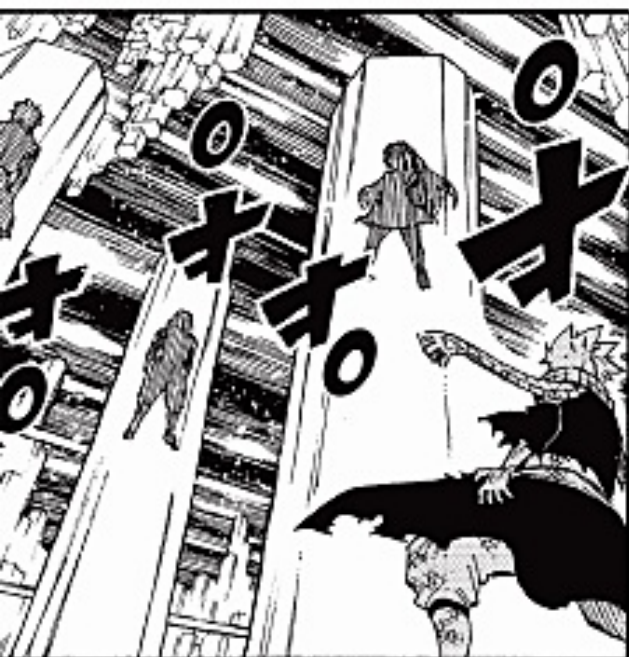
FAIRY TAIL

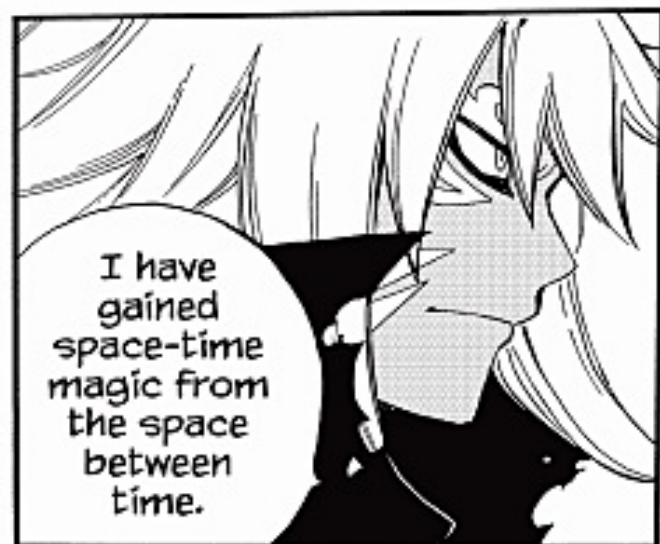
フェアリーテイル

Chapter 540: Balance











I will
rise past
the limits of
space and
time and
destroy the
world!



And here,
in the space
between time,
I will slay
you, the final
dragons.

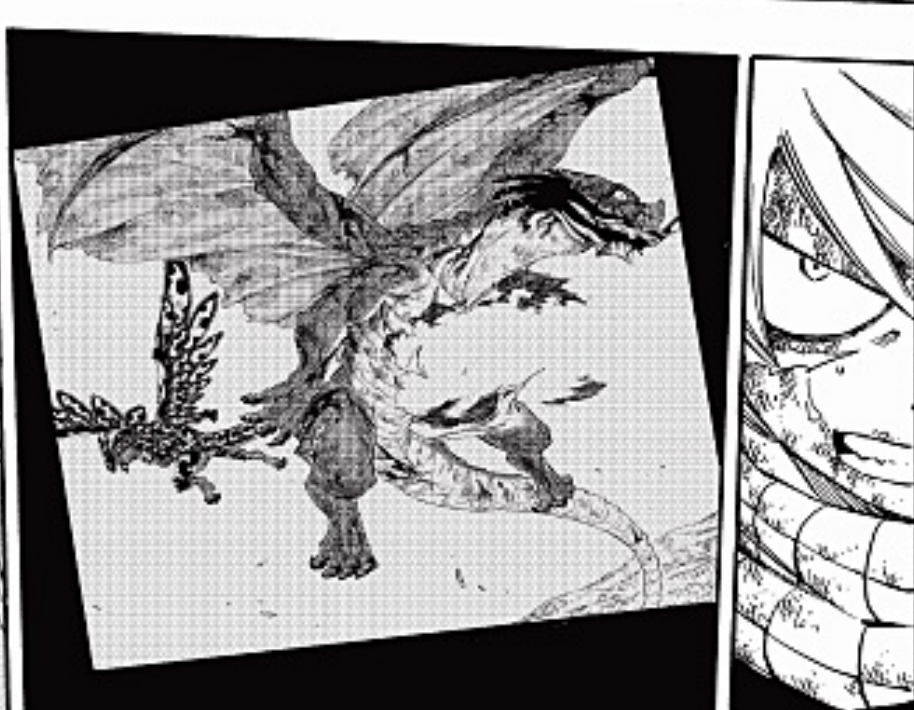


You will...

...become a
permanent
fixture here.



Just shut
up already!



Acnologia, are
you running
away?!



Where
did you take
Wendy?!!



...Mag-
nolia...



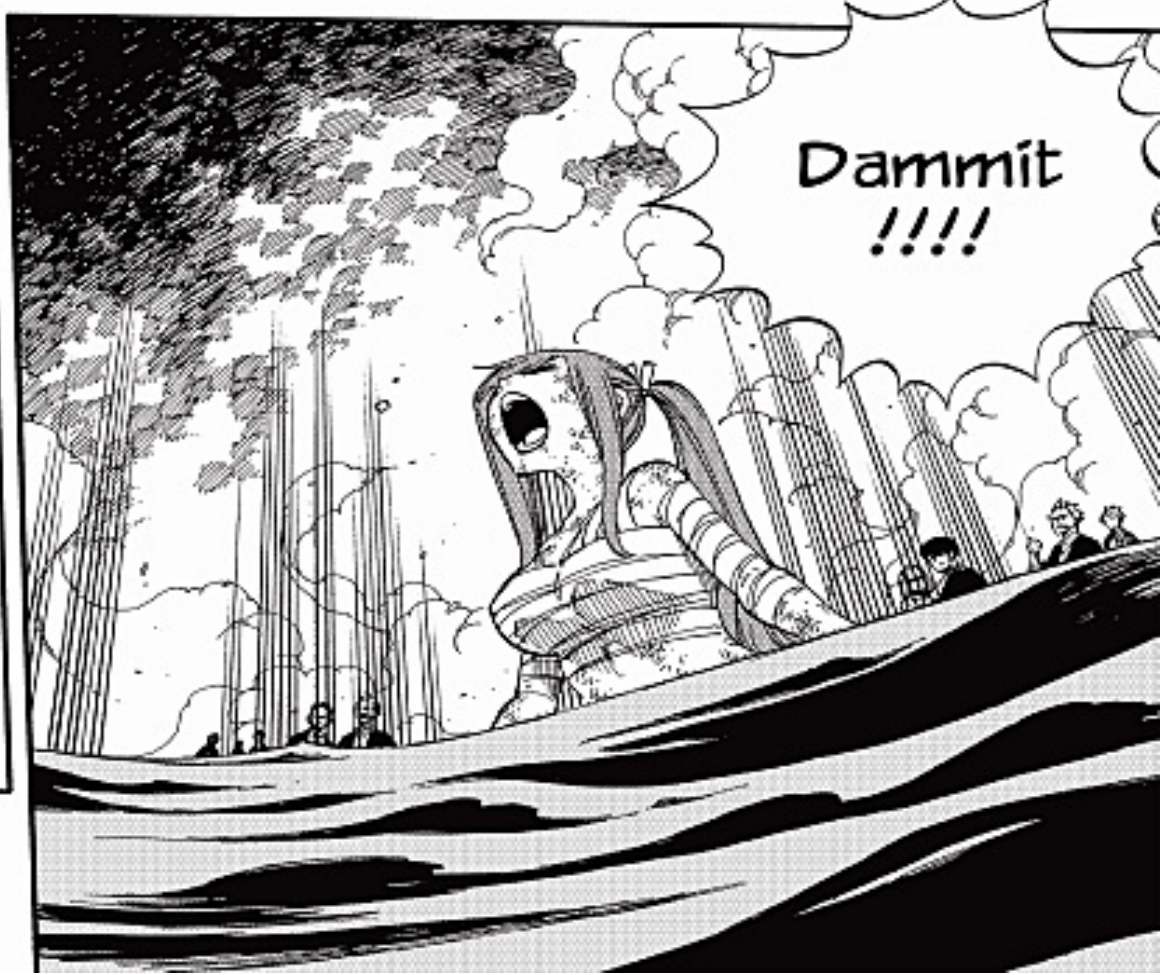
He's
heading
toward...

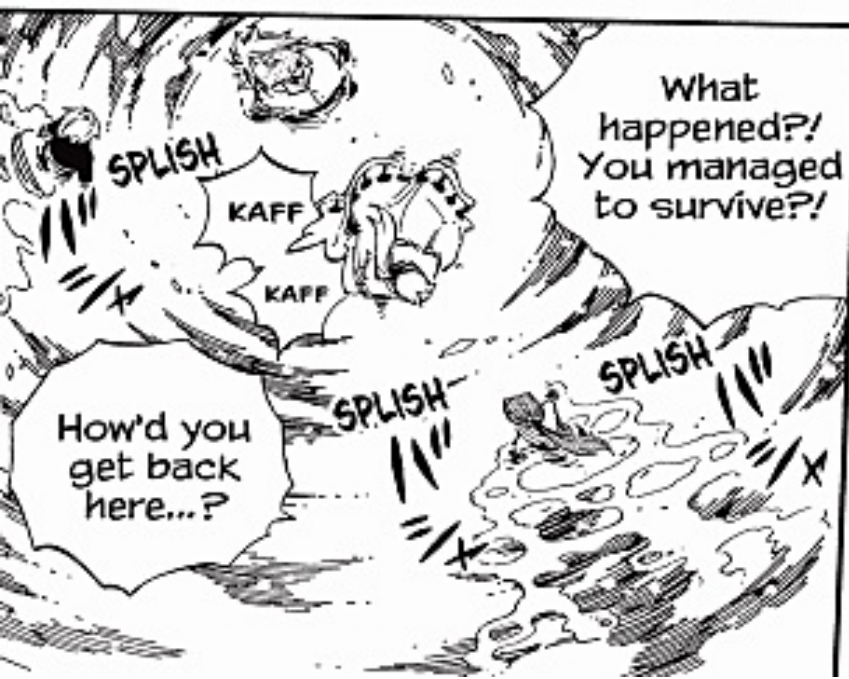


KRACK / P

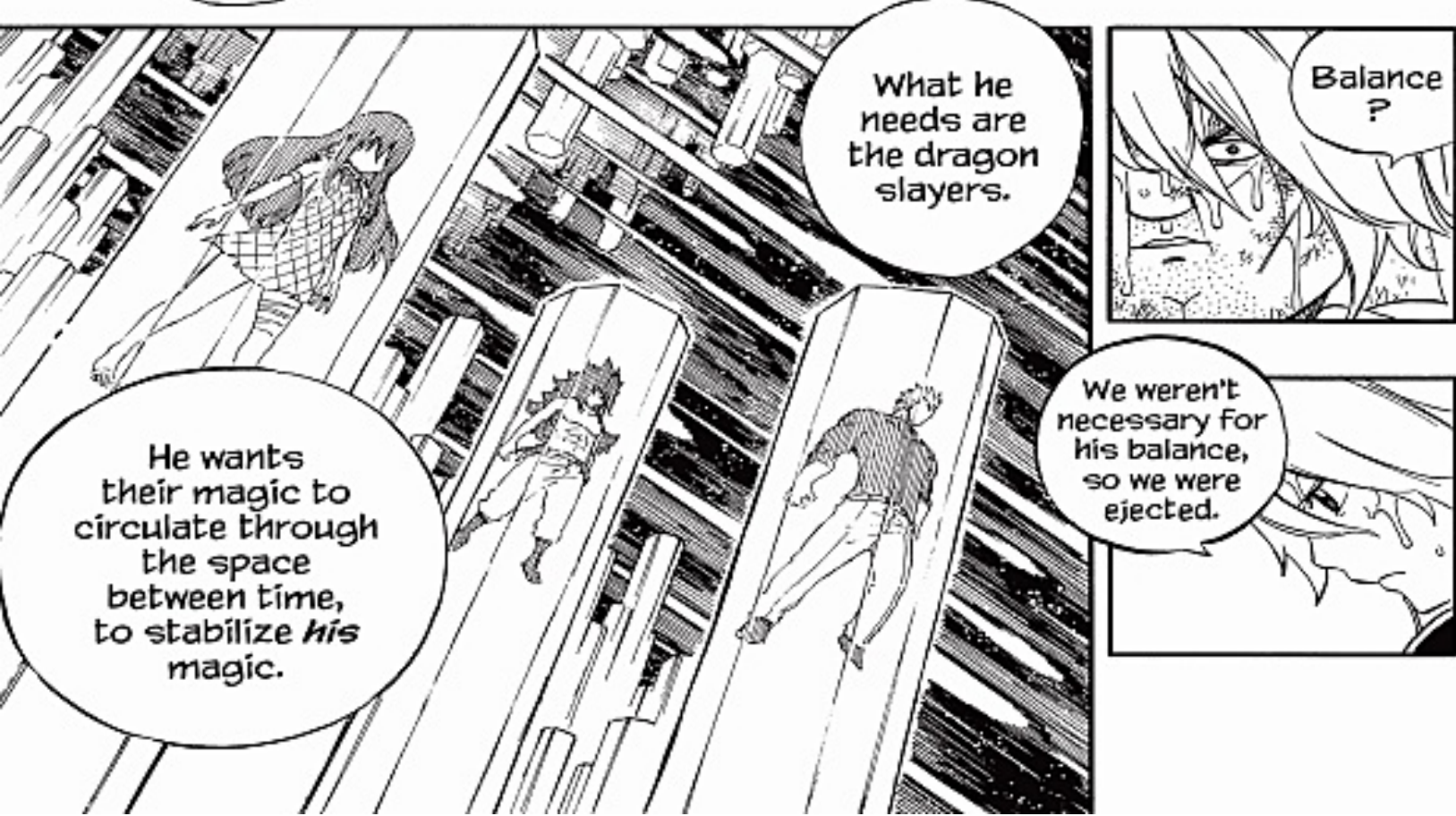


Dammit
!!!!











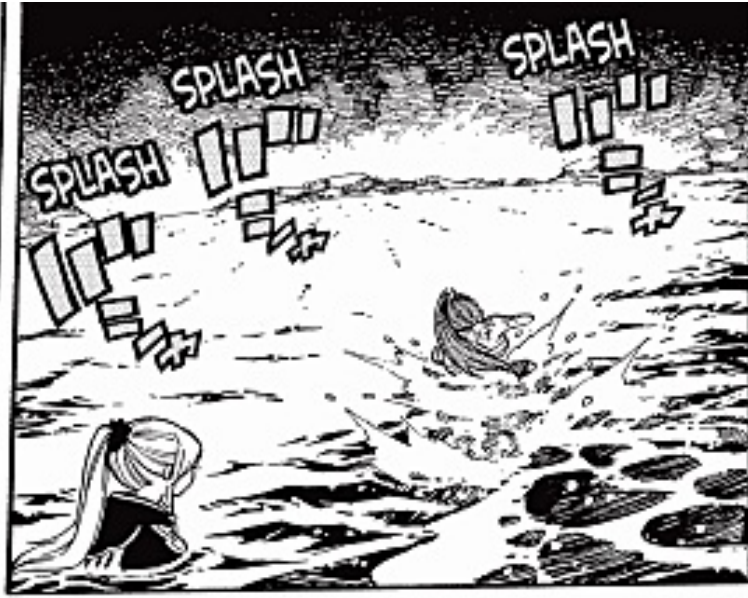


I'm going to Magnolia!!

You're going to swim there?!



Erza!!



I'm going to trust in Natsu and the other dragon slayers!!!!

But...the Acnologia in *this* world is heading toward Magnolia!!! So I am too!!!



We all have to go protect the town!!



Mest!!



Natsu is
alive!!

But...
Natsu...

Follow
me!!!

There is
no time!
I will explain
later!

KACHIK **!!** **☆**

KACHIK **!!** **☆**

GUAAAH
!!!

KACHIK **!!** **☆**



Everyone,
listen up...

Not at
all...

I'm sorry
to have
worried you,
Erza...

Master...

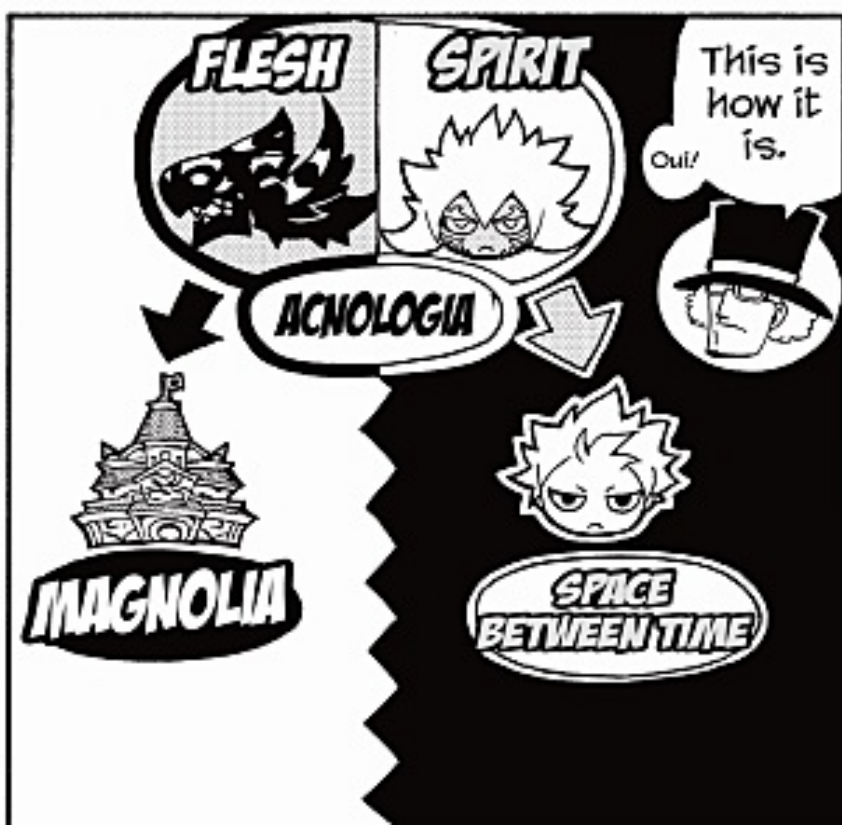
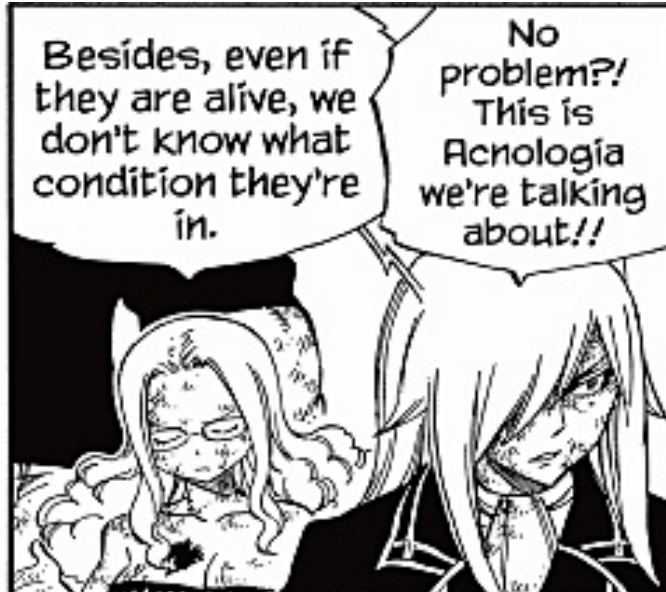
You faced
off against
the Black
Wizard? I'm
surprised all
you lost was
an arm.

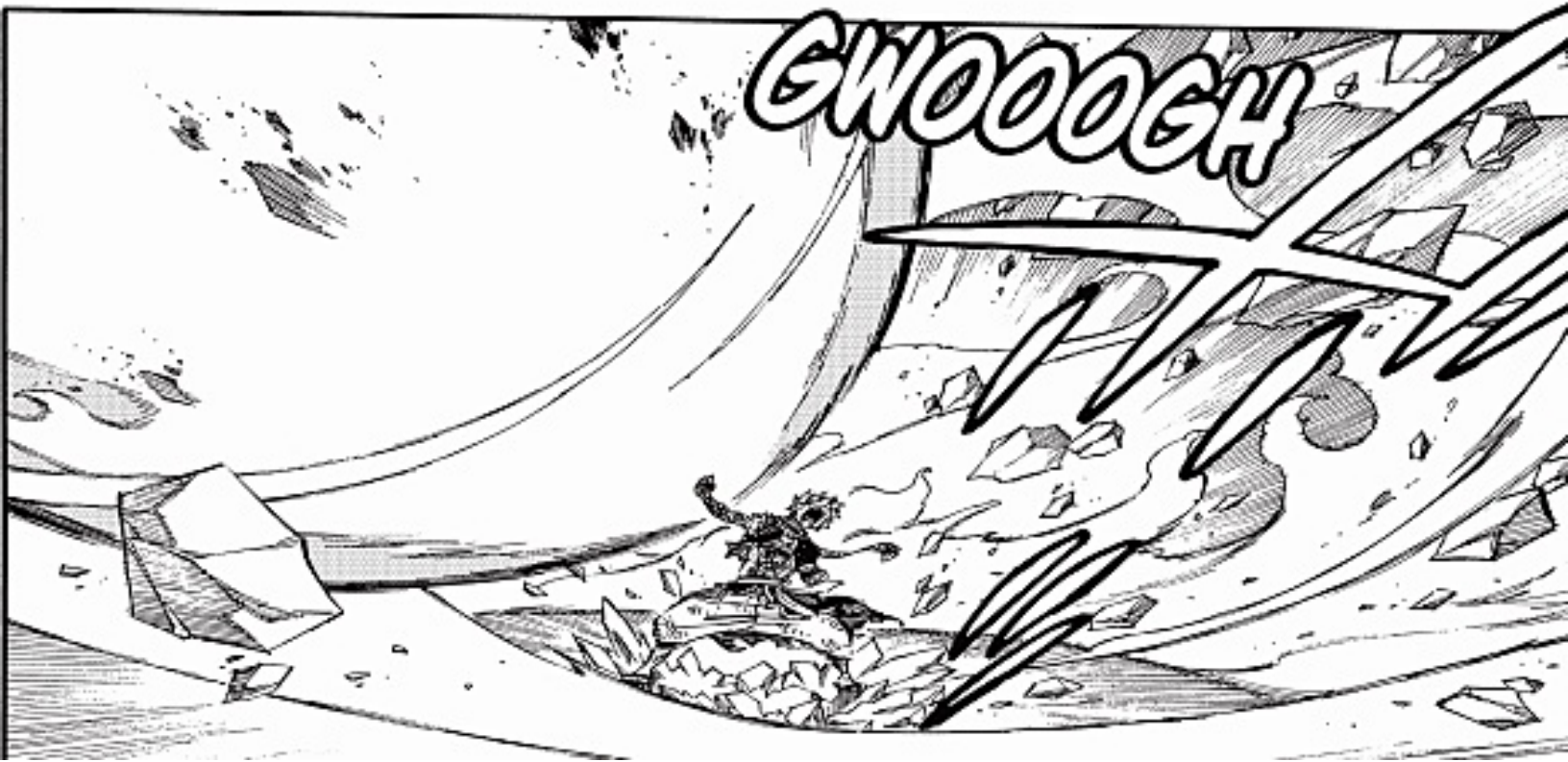
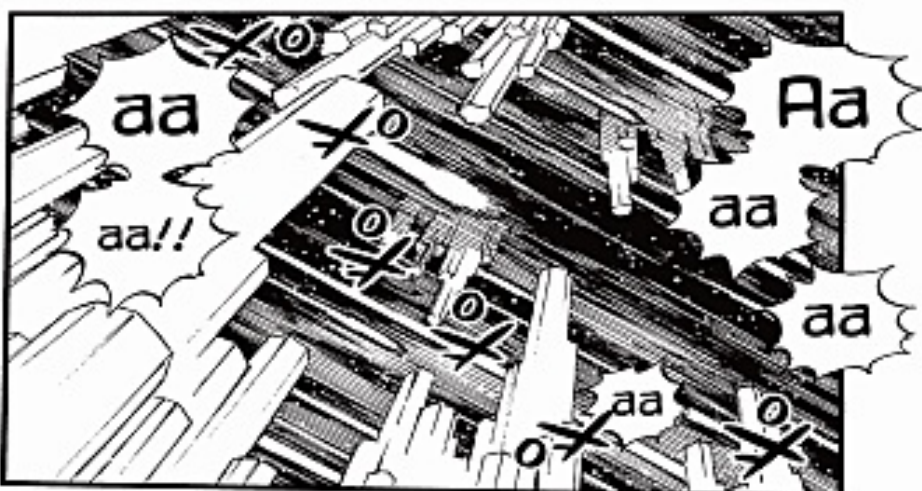
*Dammit
!!!*

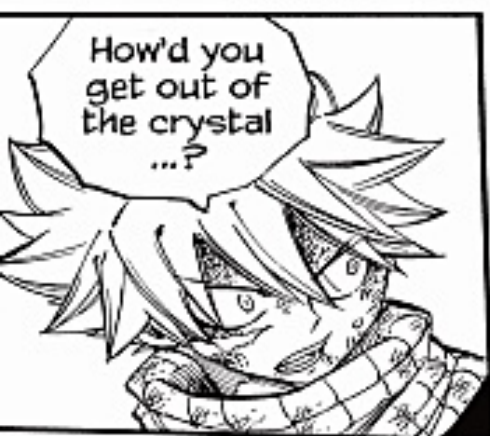
Why can't
I get any
fire goin'
...?!!

And the
spirit of
Acnologia is
in there with
them?

So...all the
dragon slayers
are shut up
in this space
between
time?!









*Let's go
dragon
huntin'
!!!*

OM

Z



*Yeah
!!!!*

BO



I
see that I
must teach
you...

...why they
call me the
Dragon
King!!!!

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 541: The Magic of Hope











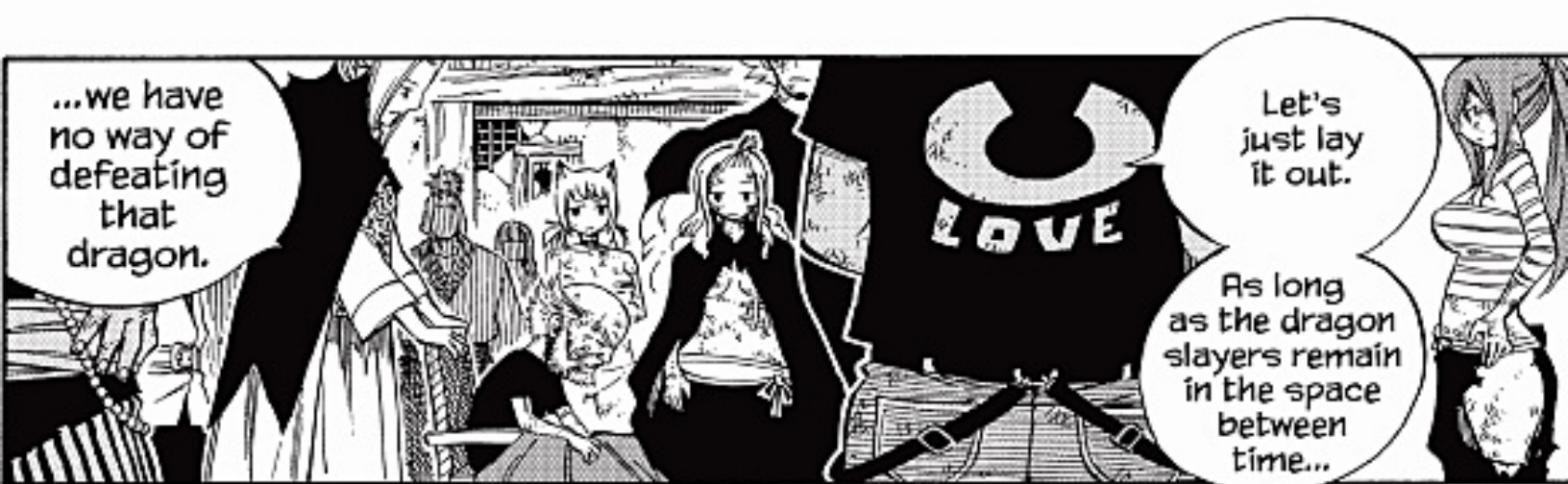


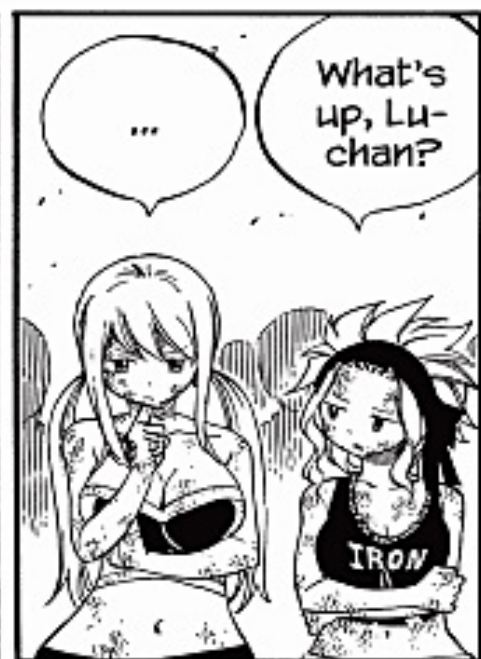
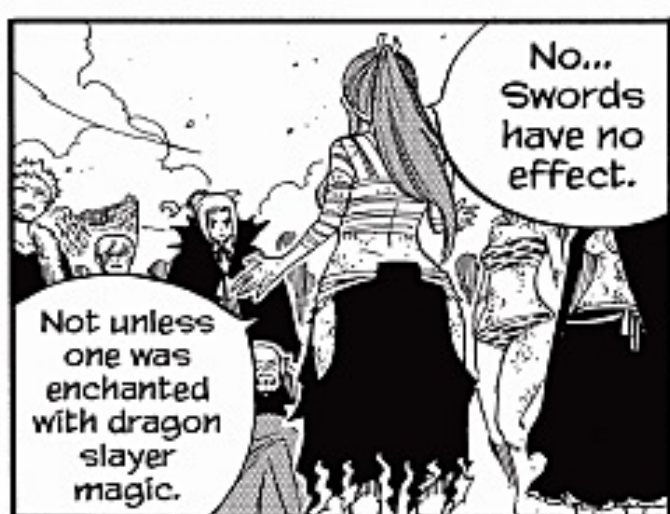


Want to
know why
I am the
Dragon
King?



The answer's
obvious. When
it comes to
strength, I'm
number one.









It's
here!!



It's
Acnologia
!!!



Find the
biggest boat
you can, and
get it ready
to sail!!

I need a
bunch of
you to head
to Hargeon
Harbor!!



Lucy!!!
What's your
plan?!!

This is
bad!! Let's
get outta
here!!!

It doesn't
care what it
destroys!!!

AAAAH!

AAAAH!



But... All that's
gonna do is make
'im all pukey for
maybe a few
seconds.



You want to
get Acnologia
on the boat?!



The dragon
slayers'
weakness!!!!



Boat
?!
CHATTER

Why...?

Oh!!!



A magic of bonds
so strong, not
even Acologia
was able to
overcome it!!



Lucy-
sama, just
what magic
is it?



If it is thus,
it falls to
us to do the
luring...?

One other
thing... I want
as many Fairy
Tail members
in Hargeon as
possible!



The ultimate
protection
magic?!



That thing
that saved
us on Sirius
Island...?

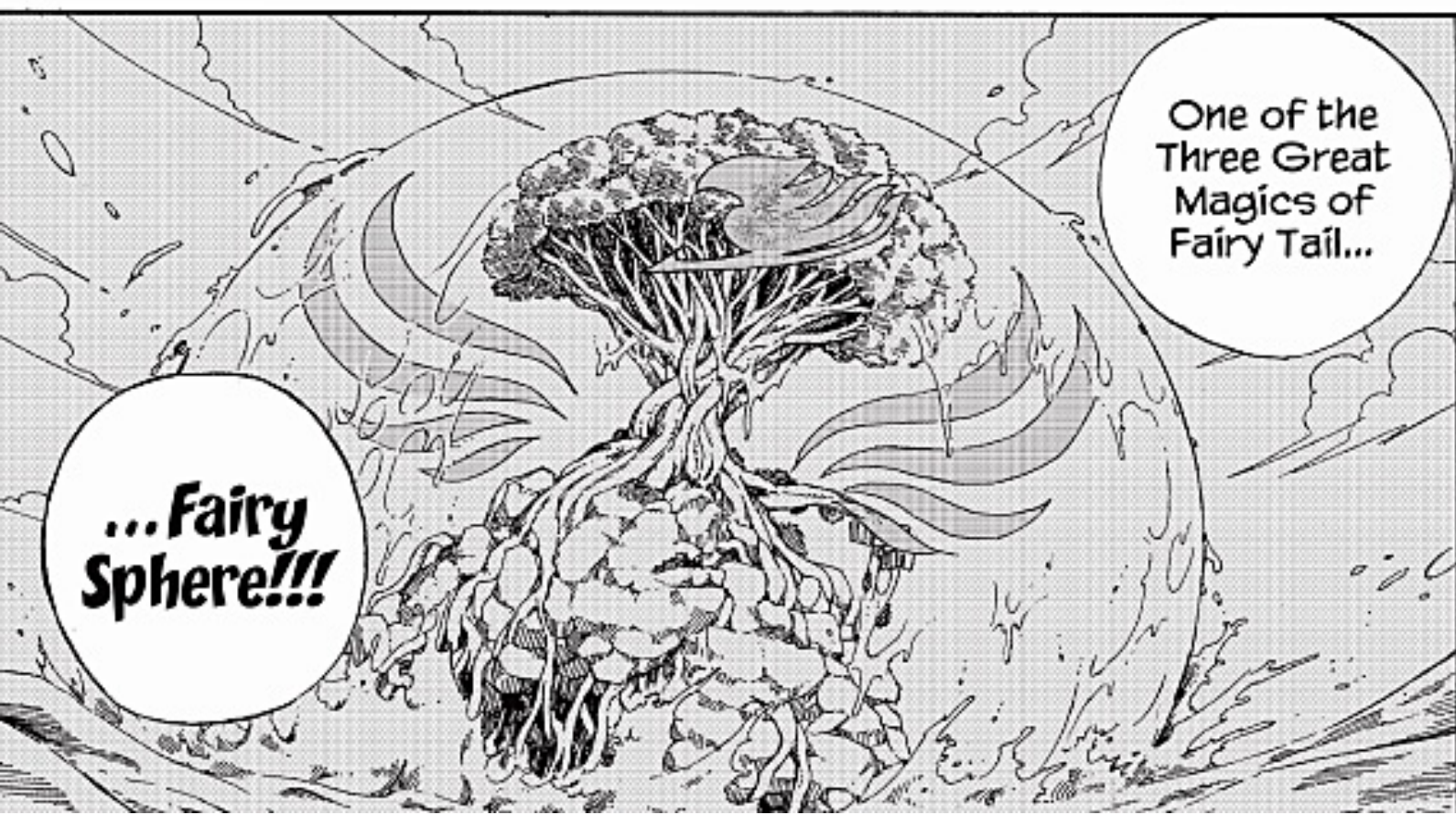


The first
master's...



...Fairy
Sphere!!!

One of the
Three Great
Magics of
Fairy Tail...



We
have to
try!!!

I
do not
think it is
possible...

To seal
him in
there?!

You want
to put
Aenologia
inside Fairy
Sphere?!

...

You
don't
mean...

But that
magic's just
defensive...

Yeah,
Aenologia
wasn't able
to destroy
it, but...

!!

It's do or
die! We have
to bet on
something!







That
is all.

Lay
waste!!!



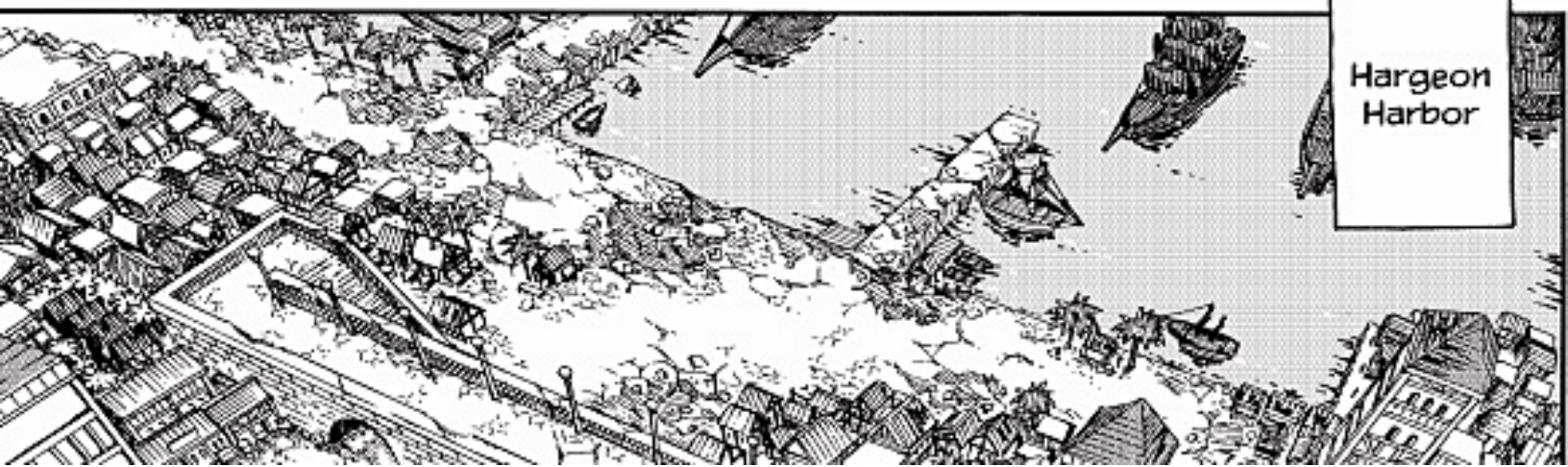
That's
all yer
doing it
for...?!



Ka ha ha
ha ha ha
ha!!!

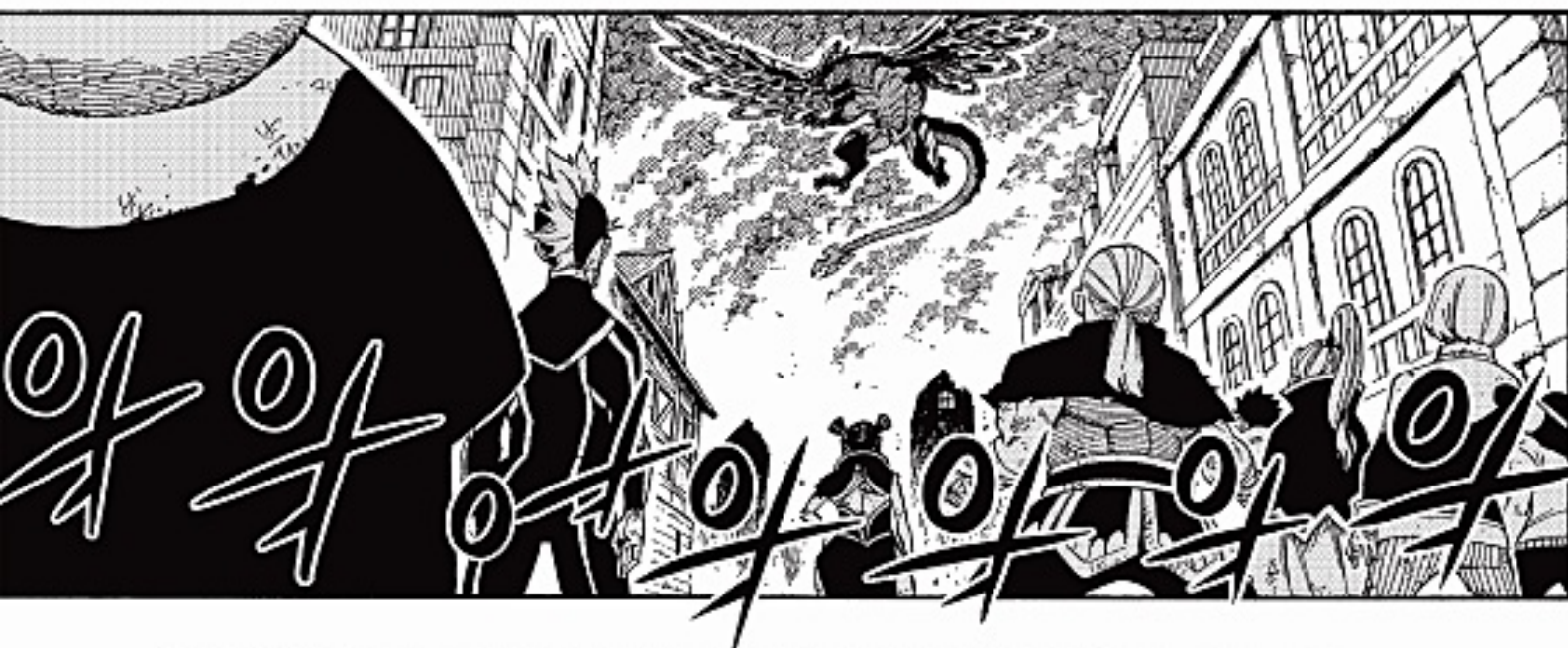
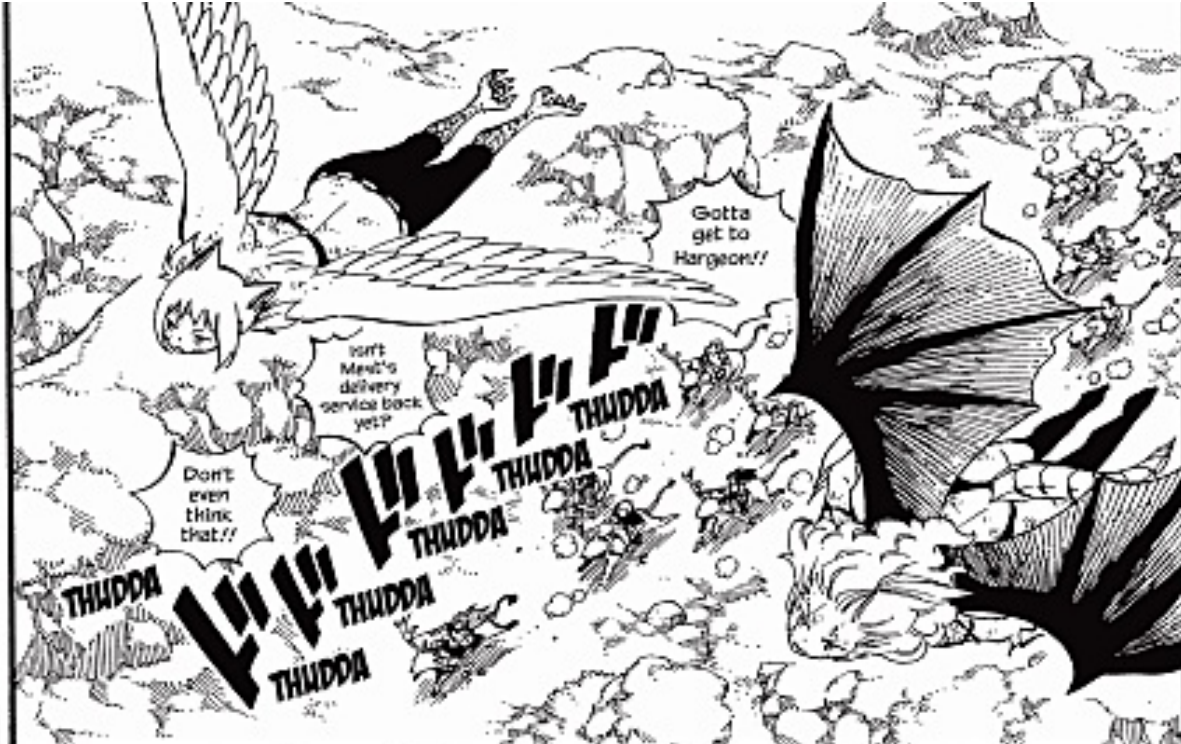
A large, close-up panel of a character's face. The character has spiky, light-colored hair and a wide, toothy grin. The background is dark with horizontal streaks.

This world
ain't so weak
it'd just let
you destroy
it!!!

An aerial view of a city and harbor. The city is densely packed with buildings, and the harbor is filled with ships and boats. The scene is shown from a high angle, looking down on the city and the water.

Hargeon
Harbor







FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 542: Instinct









Hey!!
Achnologia!!
Try to catch
me if you
can!!



This cannot
continue! We cannot
allow Magnolia to
suffer any further
destruction.



Why is
he doing
this?!

I can
think of no
reason.



But if he is
not acting
deliberately,
why would
he come to
Magnolia?



That didn't
work! I guess
words don't
get through
to him!!!



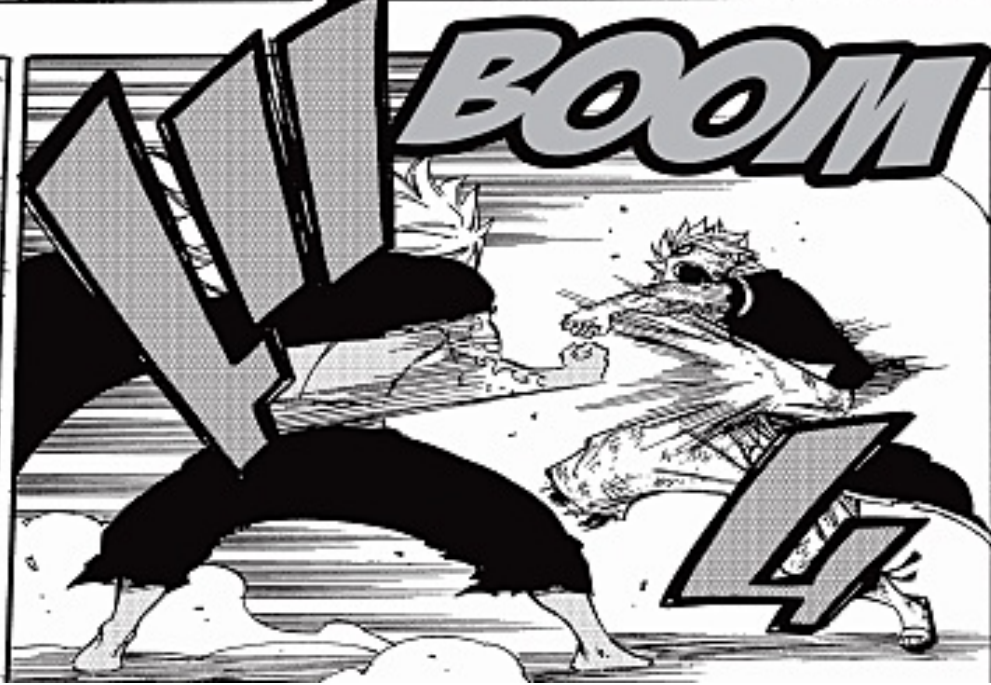
The most
magic he
can find?

Then he's
following the
magic?

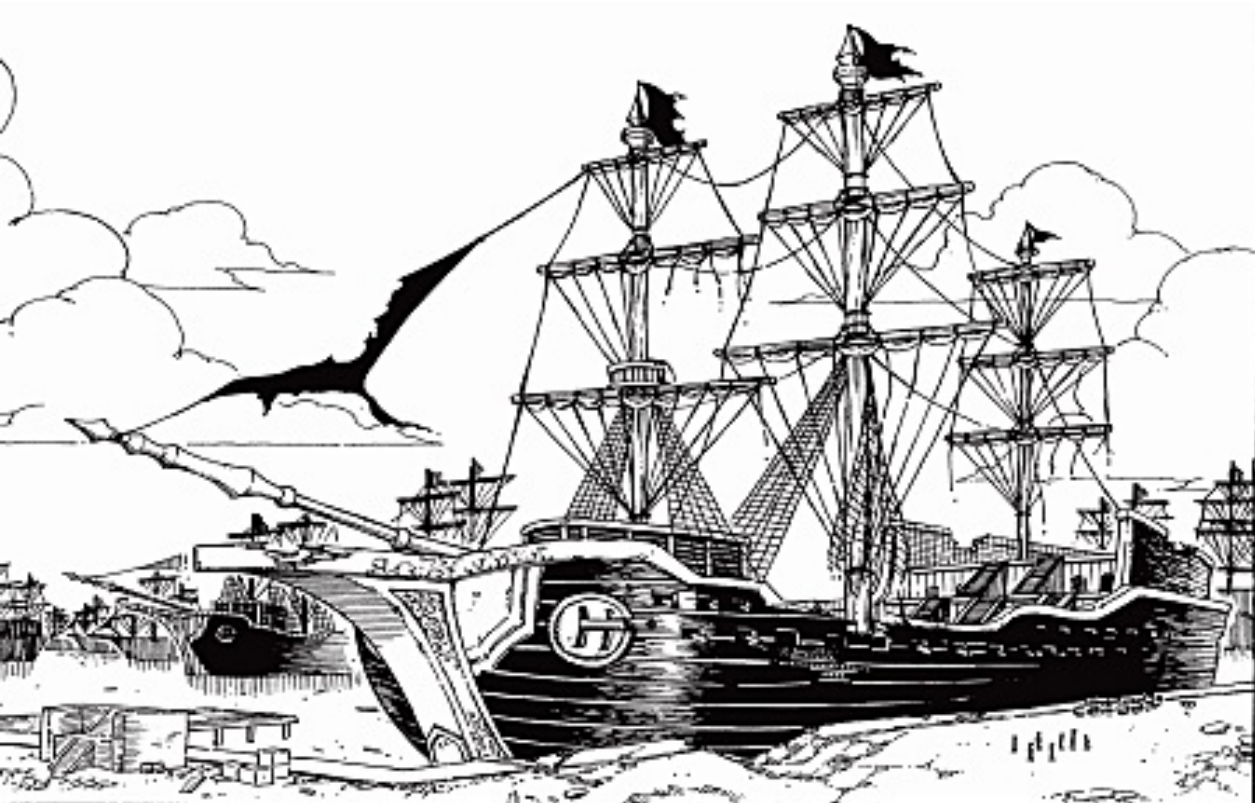


It is
instinct!!

He seeks
out a place
with a high
concentration
of wizards and
attempts to
eradicate it.







Hargeon



But... How
would one get
Aenologia
aboard it?



The
Alvarez
forces
abandoned
it here.



That's the
biggest
one?



But if magic
can't damage
him, the only
other option is
physical force.

Tryin' to do
the impossible
again...?



Hey!!
You made
it!!



I shall
strike him
downwards
from above!!

A close-up of Lucy speaking with a determined expression.

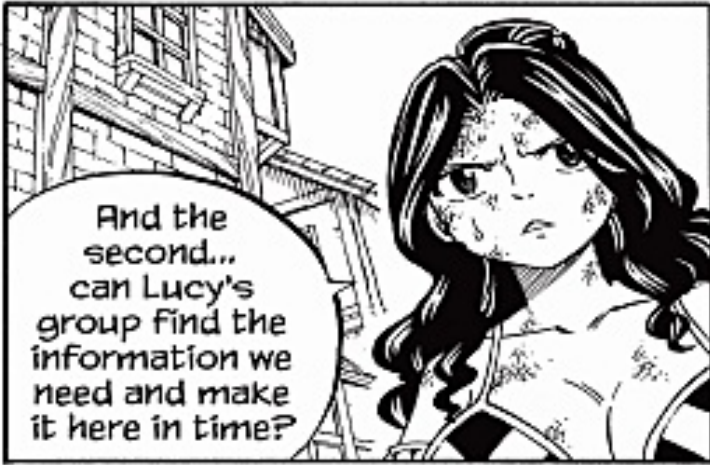
Still,
we have two
problems
left.

A close-up of Natsu speaking with a determined expression.

No... It
must
be. I *will*
accomplish
it!!

A close-up of Lucy speaking with a determined expression.

It
should be
possible.

A close-up of Lucy speaking with a determined expression.

And the
second...
can Lucy's
group find the
information we
need and make
it here in time?

A close-up of Natsu speaking with a determined expression.

I guess the
first is whether
Minerva's
group can lure
Acrologia here.

A close-up of Lucy speaking with a determined expression.

But
where's
Lu-chan?

A close-up of Natsu speaking with a determined expression.

Yes.

A close-up of Lucy speaking with a determined expression.

I
think
so.

A close-up of Natsu speaking with a determined expression.

Master,
are you all
right?

A close-up of Lucy speaking with a determined expression.

Yeah...

A close-up of Natsu speaking with a determined expression.

Is
everyone
okay?!

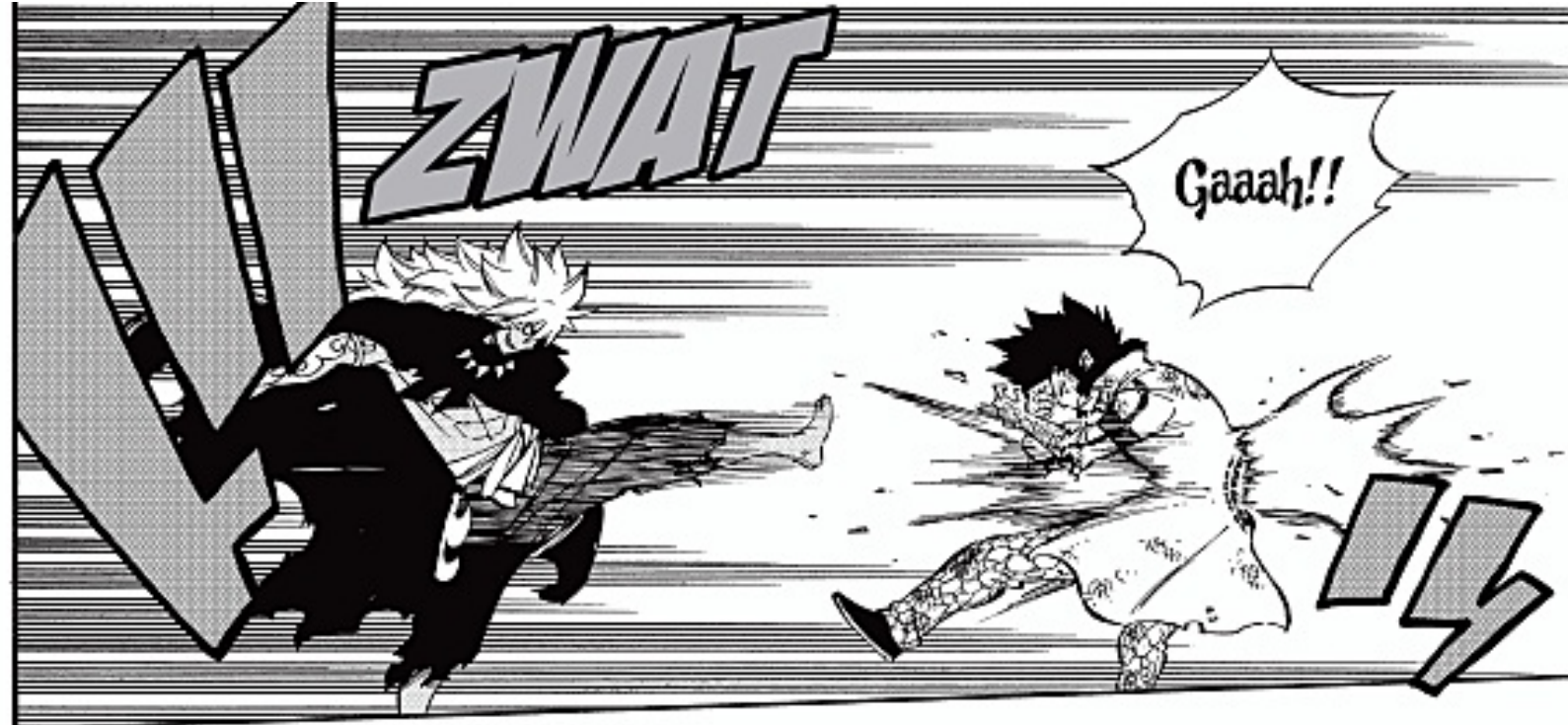
A wide shot of the Fairy Tail Library, showing a large, multi-story building with many bookshelves and a large staircase.

The Fairy
Tail
Library



ZWAT

Gaaah!!



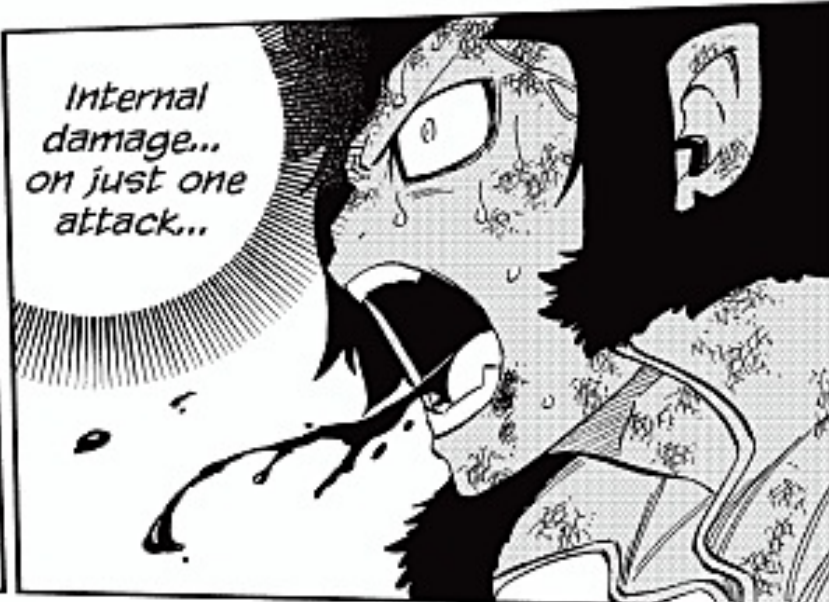
BAM

I ain't
done
yet!!!!



Cobra!!!

Internal
damage...
on just one
attack...



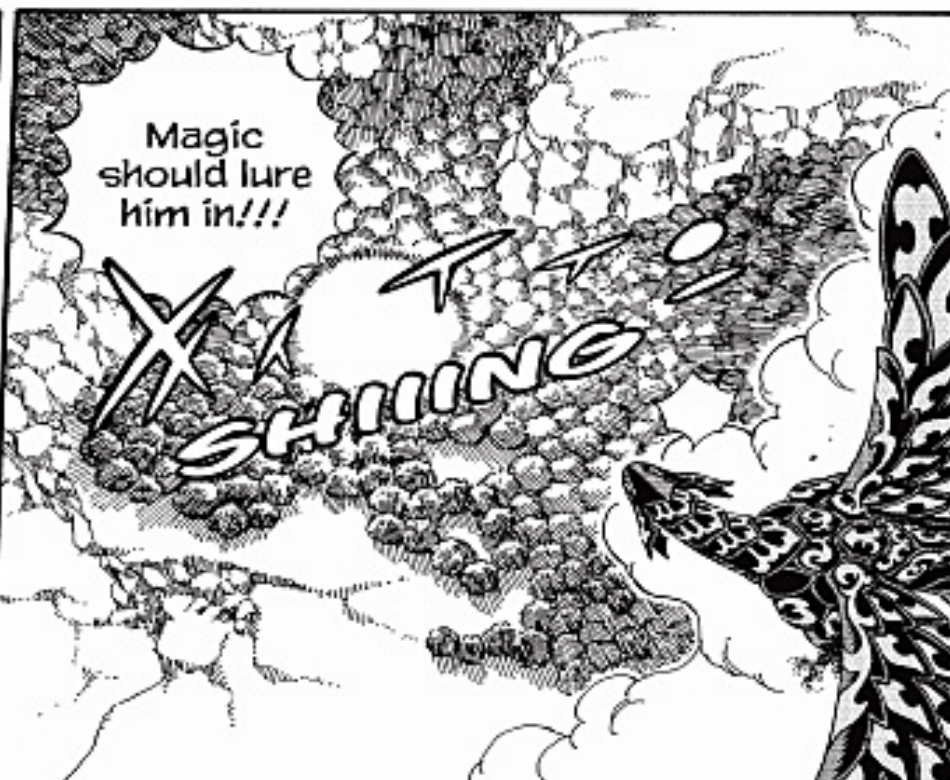
I can't
either!!!

I got my
friends
to think
about!!



I can't
just give
up and
die...



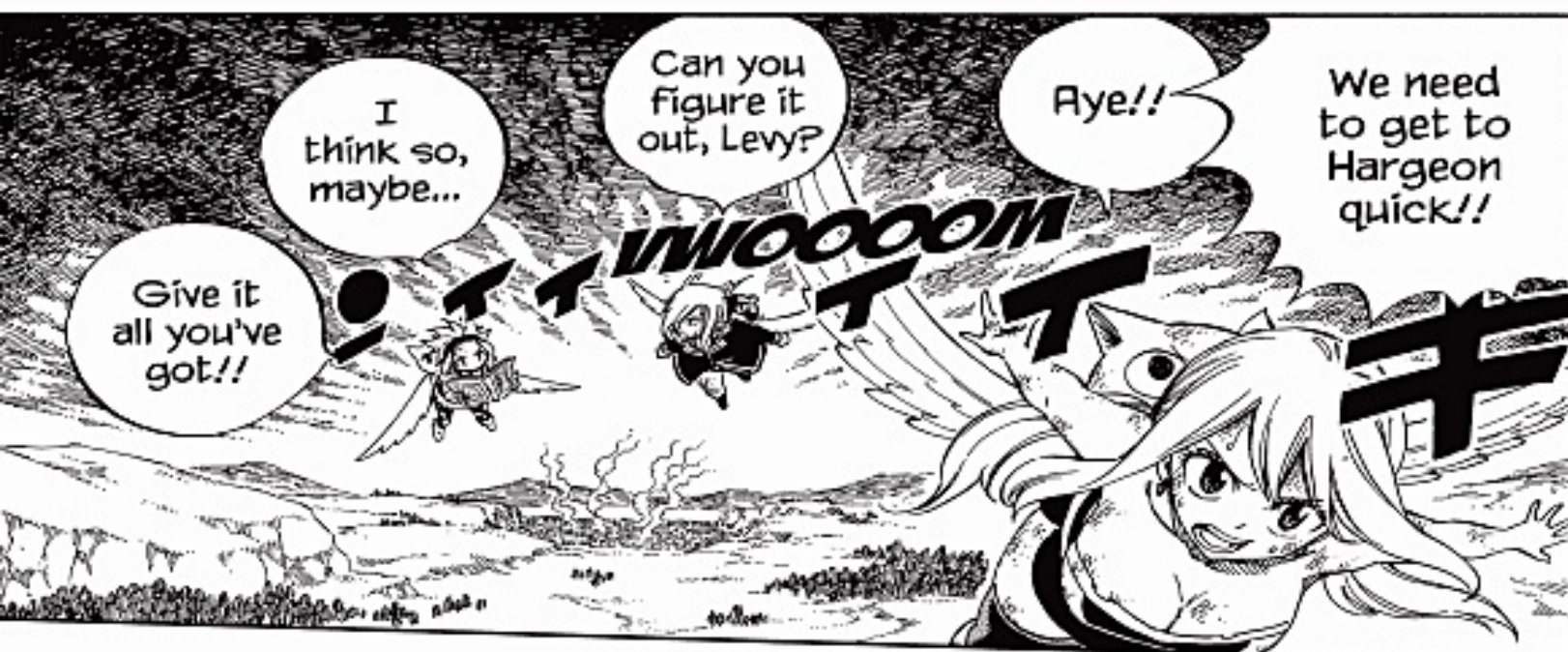




That legend you've built...



We won't let you kill Gramps, the guys in the guild, nobody!!



Give it all you've got!!

Can you figure it out, Levy?

Aye!!

We need to get to Hargeon quick!!



Acnologia !!!





We have to
buy some time
until Lucy
gets here!



Arenologia...



Here he
comes
!!!



How do
we...

Get
what
ready?



You all get
things ready
for Fairy
Sphere!!



Everybody!

O-
Okay...

Let's
hold
hands!!







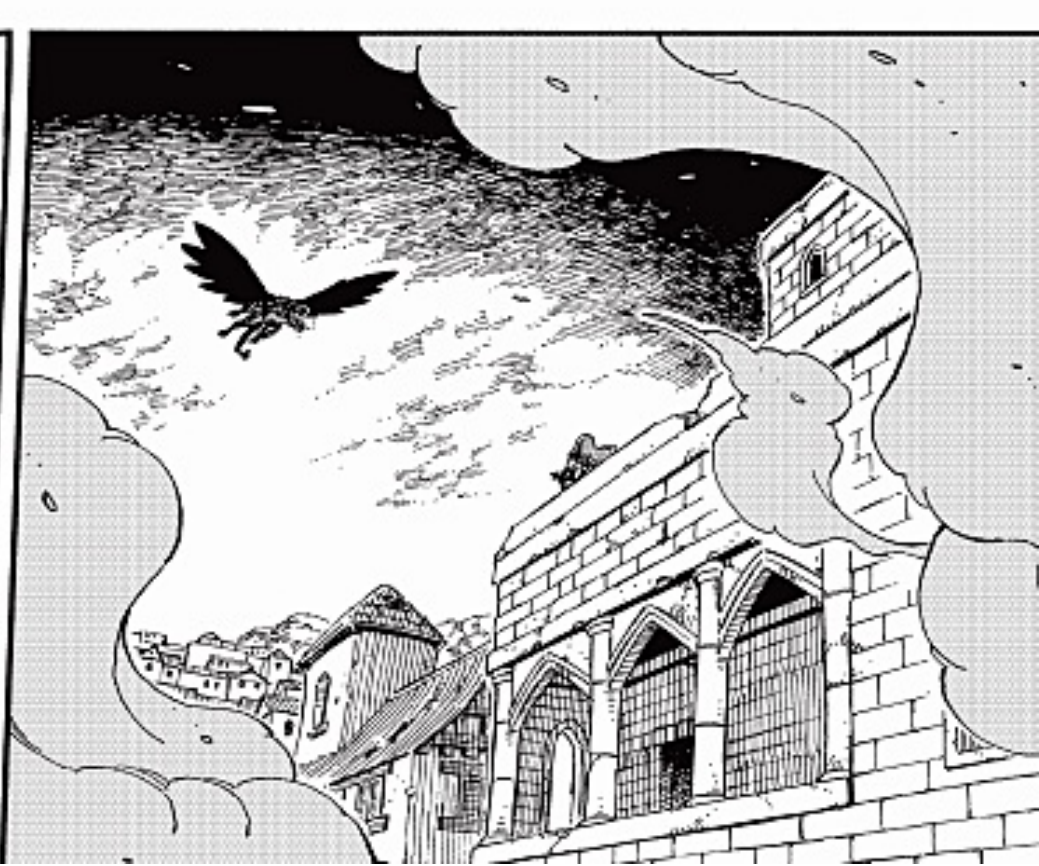
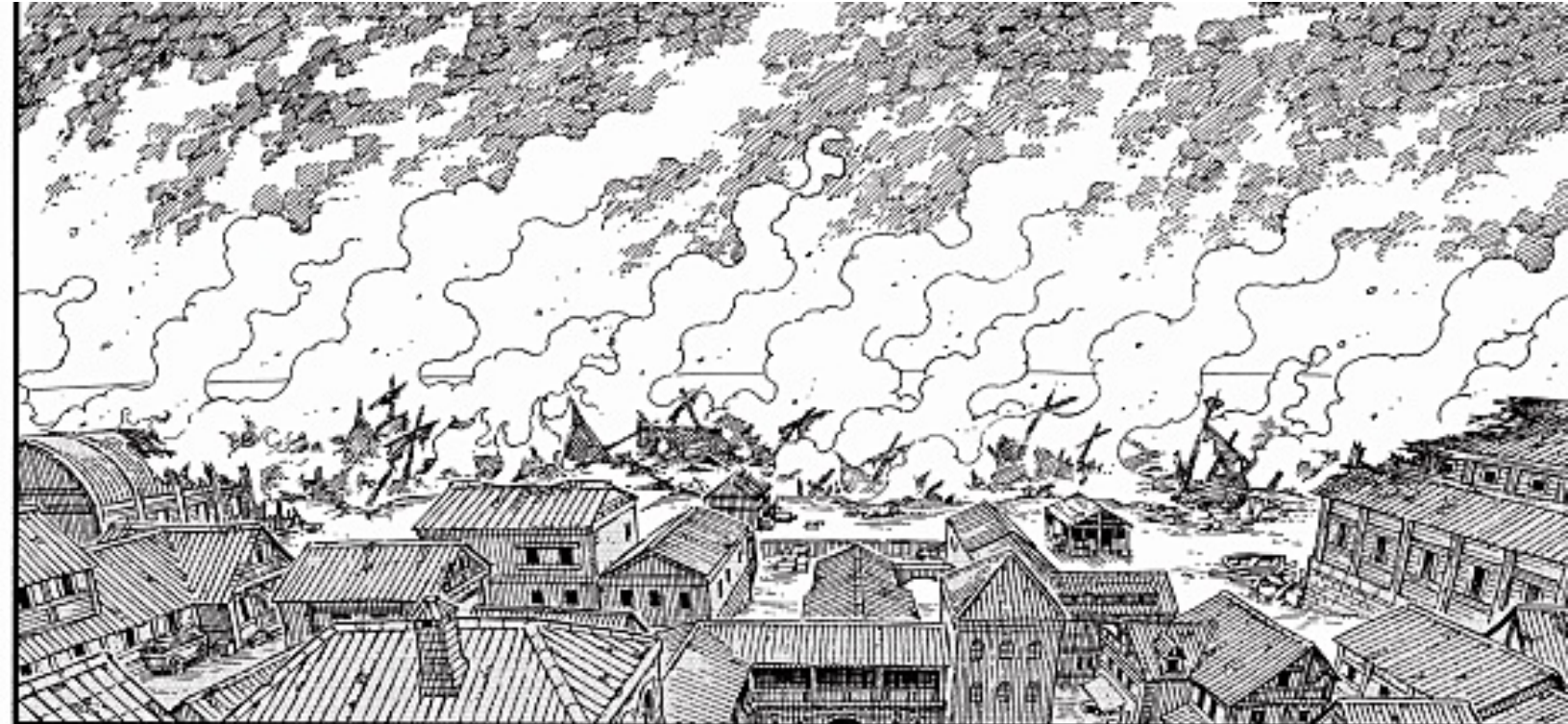


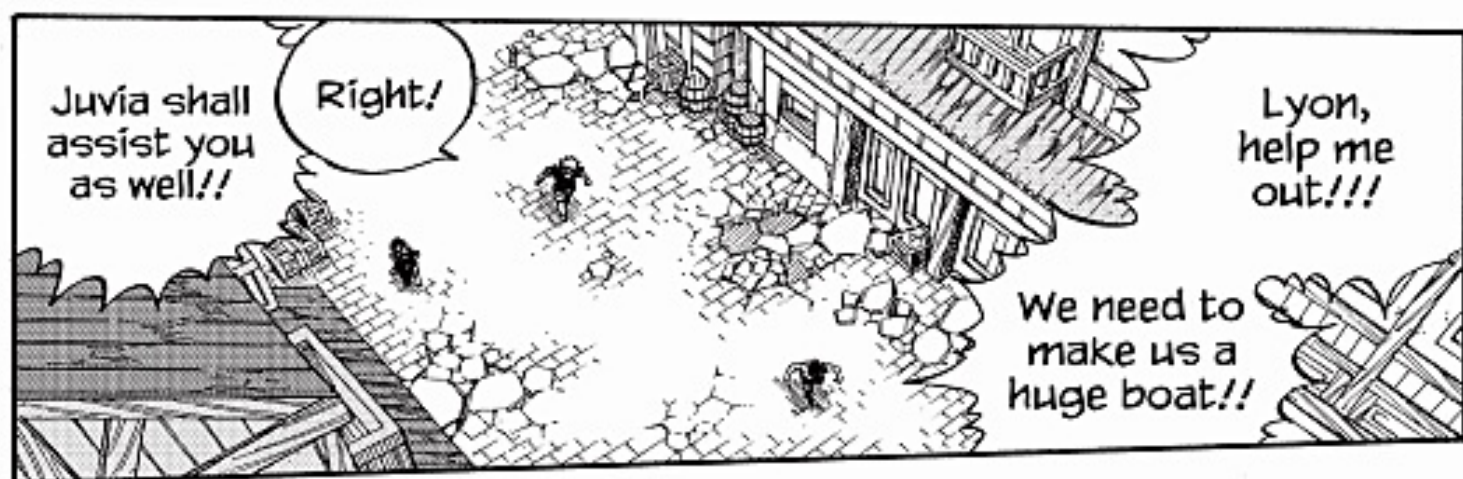
FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 543: Hearts Connected









Come on, Lucy! Hurry up...



So when Lucy gets here...

...we can be ready to release it at any time!

We should all hold hands and build up our magic!



We're going to start creating the super-sized jutsu-shiki!

The rest is up to you, Lu-chan!!



There it is! Hargeon!

The port's on fire?!

Can we still use a boat?

We'll just have to trust in the guild!

WAAAAAAN



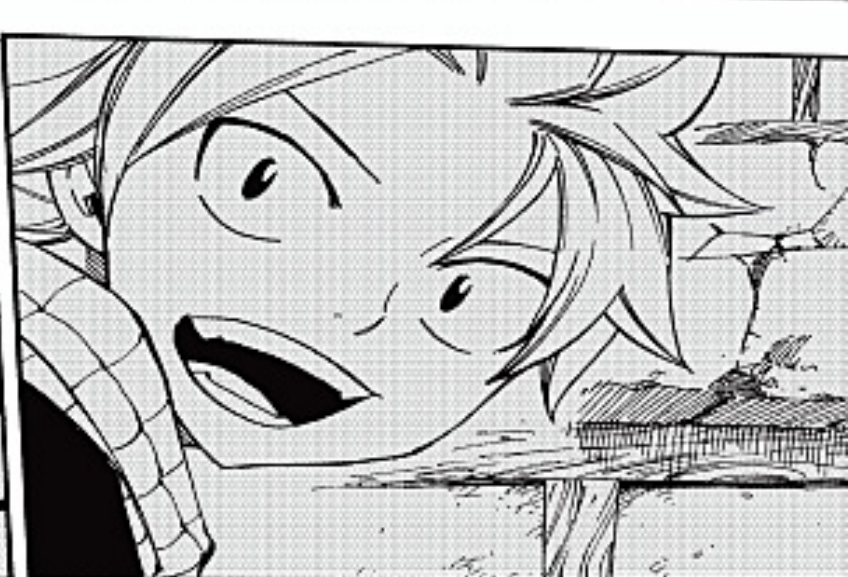


We've been waiting for you!!

All right!!

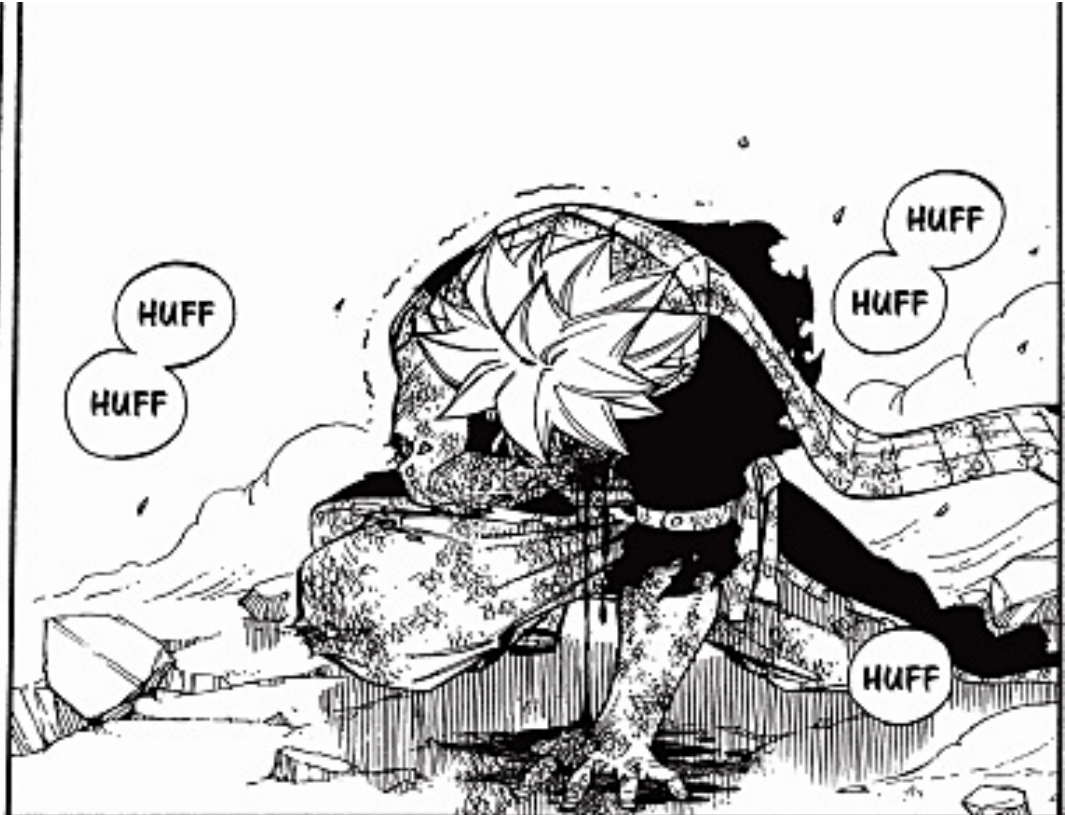
Lucy's here!!

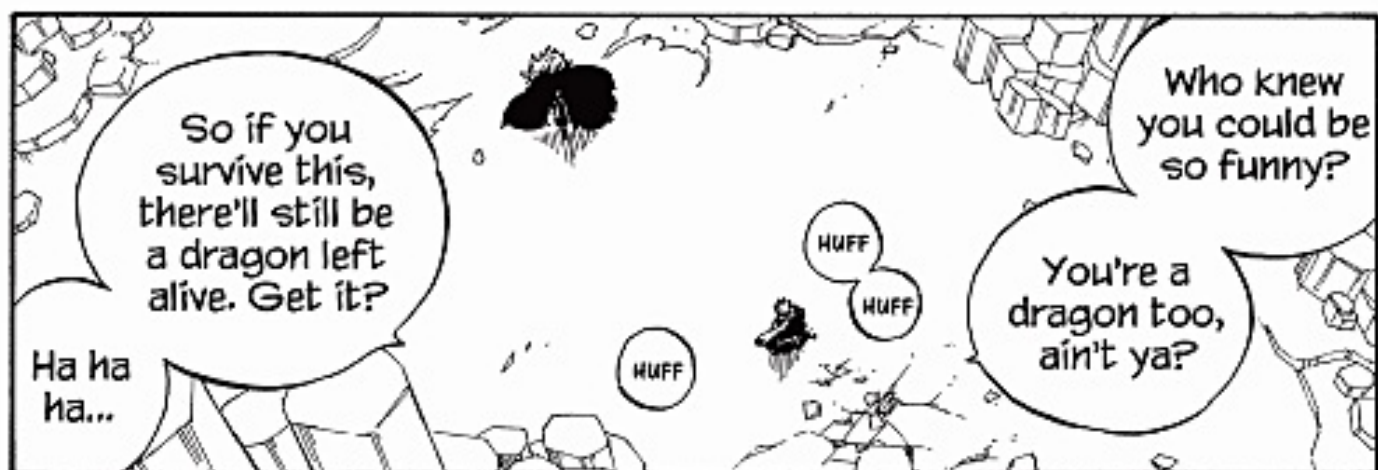
This is just what you need for Fairy Sphere, right?!



I met Natsu here once...

...and I'm going to do it again!!







Dragons?!



Nice?!

They
ate my
family!!



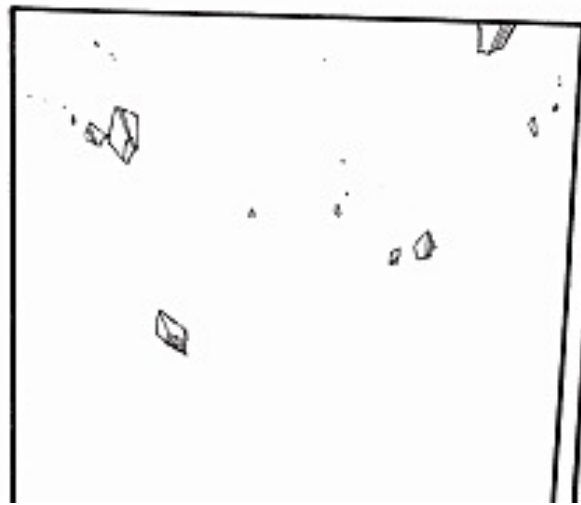
And you
call them
nice?!



Dragons
stole
everything
from me!!



GRIND







...the bad
ones and
the nice
ones...

The ones
ya hate and
the ones ya
love...

...the
strong
ones and
the weak
ones...



And the
ones who're
about to
kick your
ass!!



My
attacks!

Why
didn't...



Everyone, I'm gathering our power and using Enchant to send it to Natsu-san!!



...is goin' to you!!!



All our magic...



Use it right, Natsu-san!!



You're getting all I got!!



Get 'im, Natsu...



It's coursing through me!!

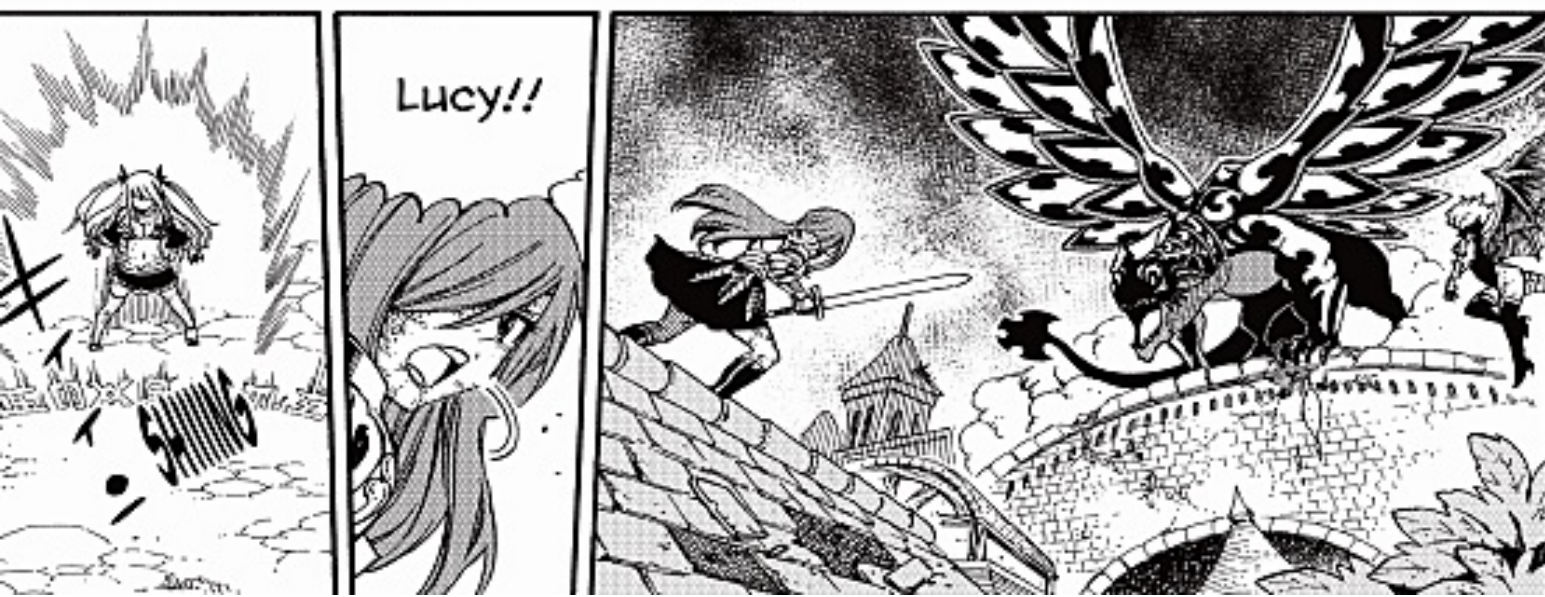
Yeah!!

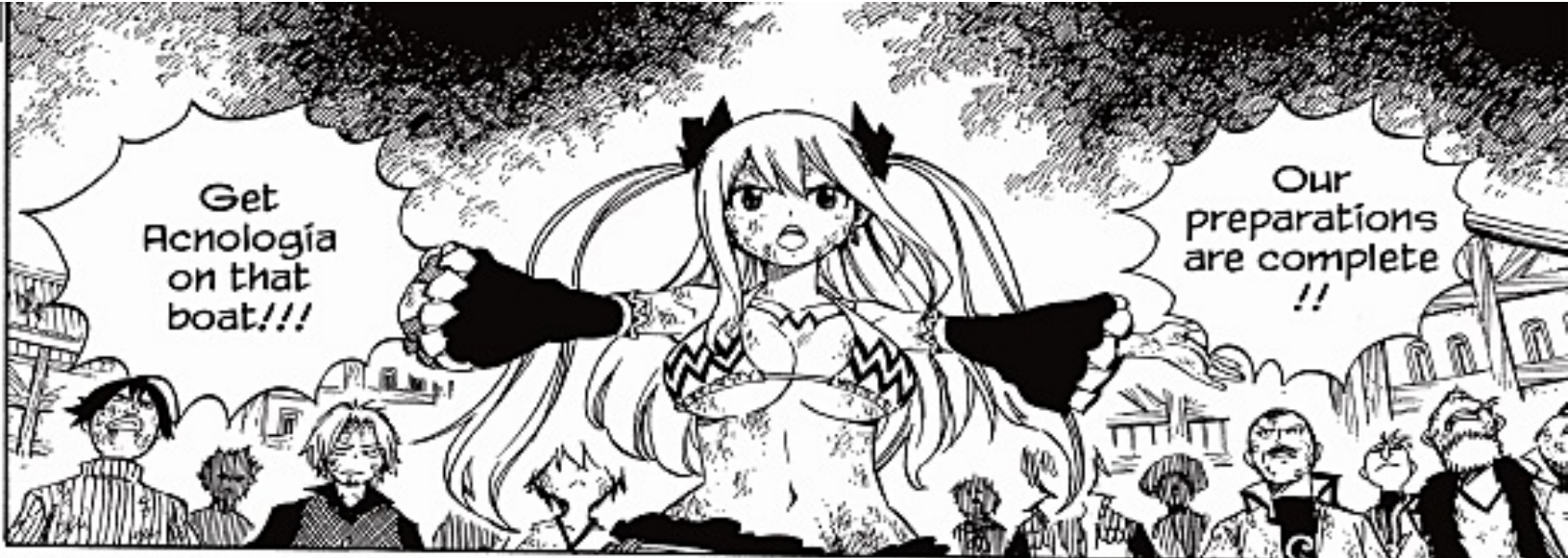


**I'm
gettin'
all your
power and
turning
it into
flame!!!!**

**This is the
power of
seven Fire
Dragons!!!!**

GWOOOGH





Get
Acnologia
on that
boat!!!

Our
preparations
are complete
!!



Juvia, use
the water
to position
the boat for
them!!

Yes!!



Very
well!! Let's
begin!!!

Over
here!!

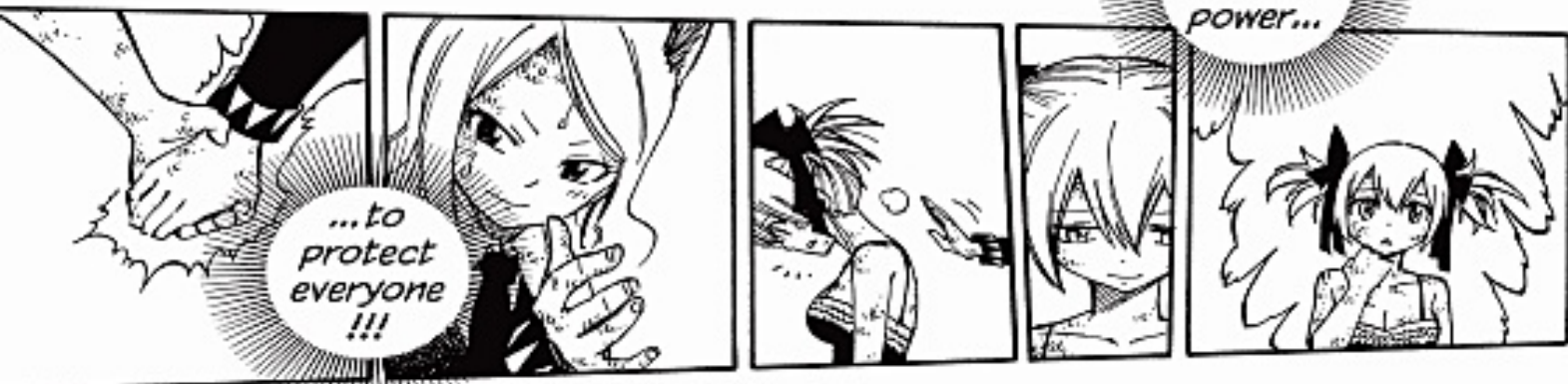
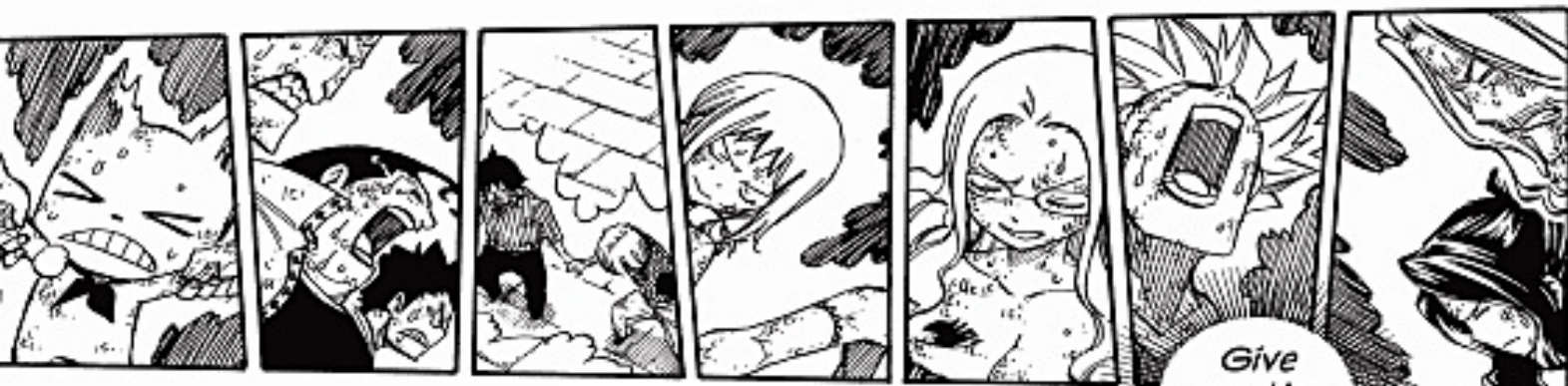
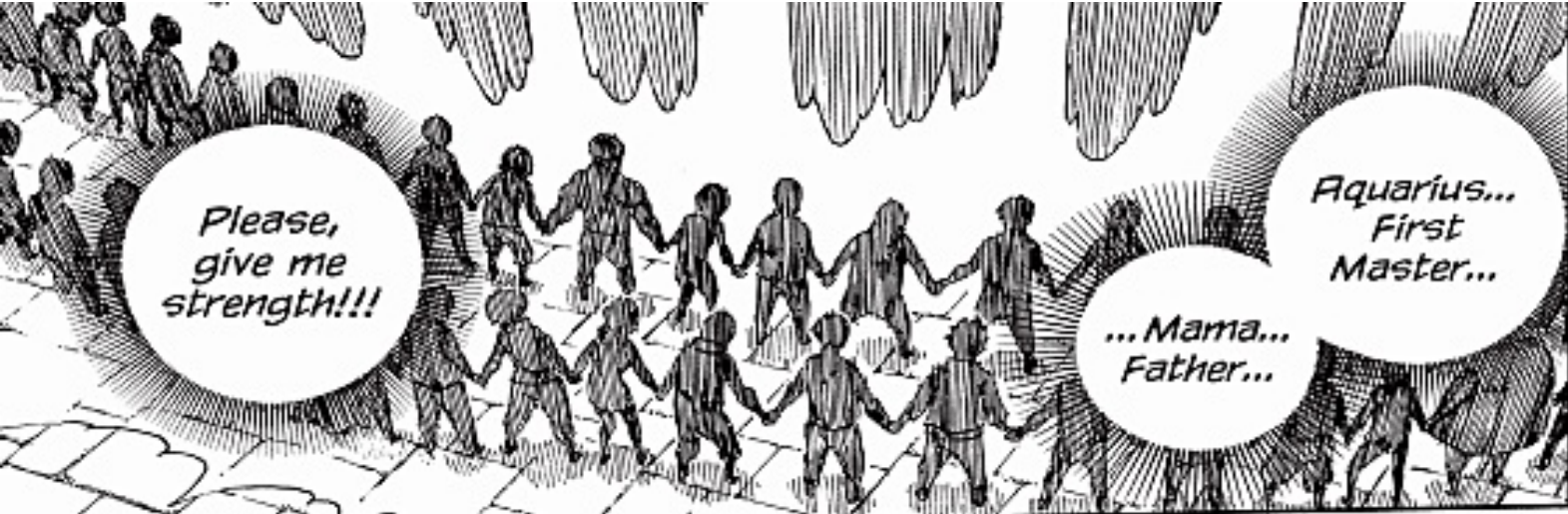


Humans are
stronger than
you think,
Acnologia!!!



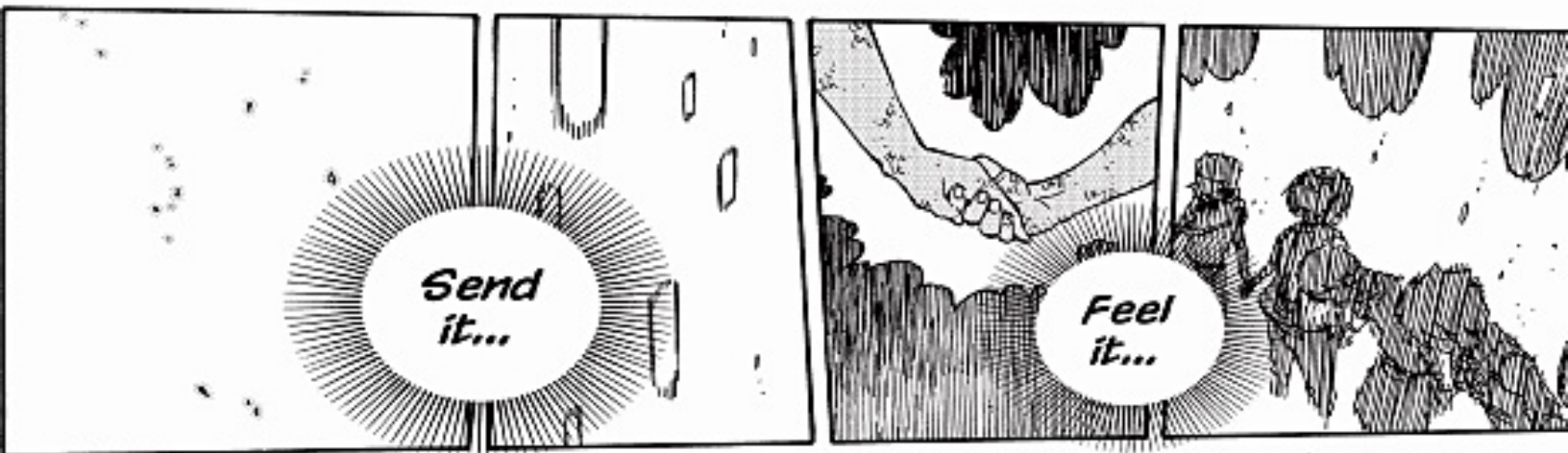








Connect...



*Send
it...*

*Feel
it...*

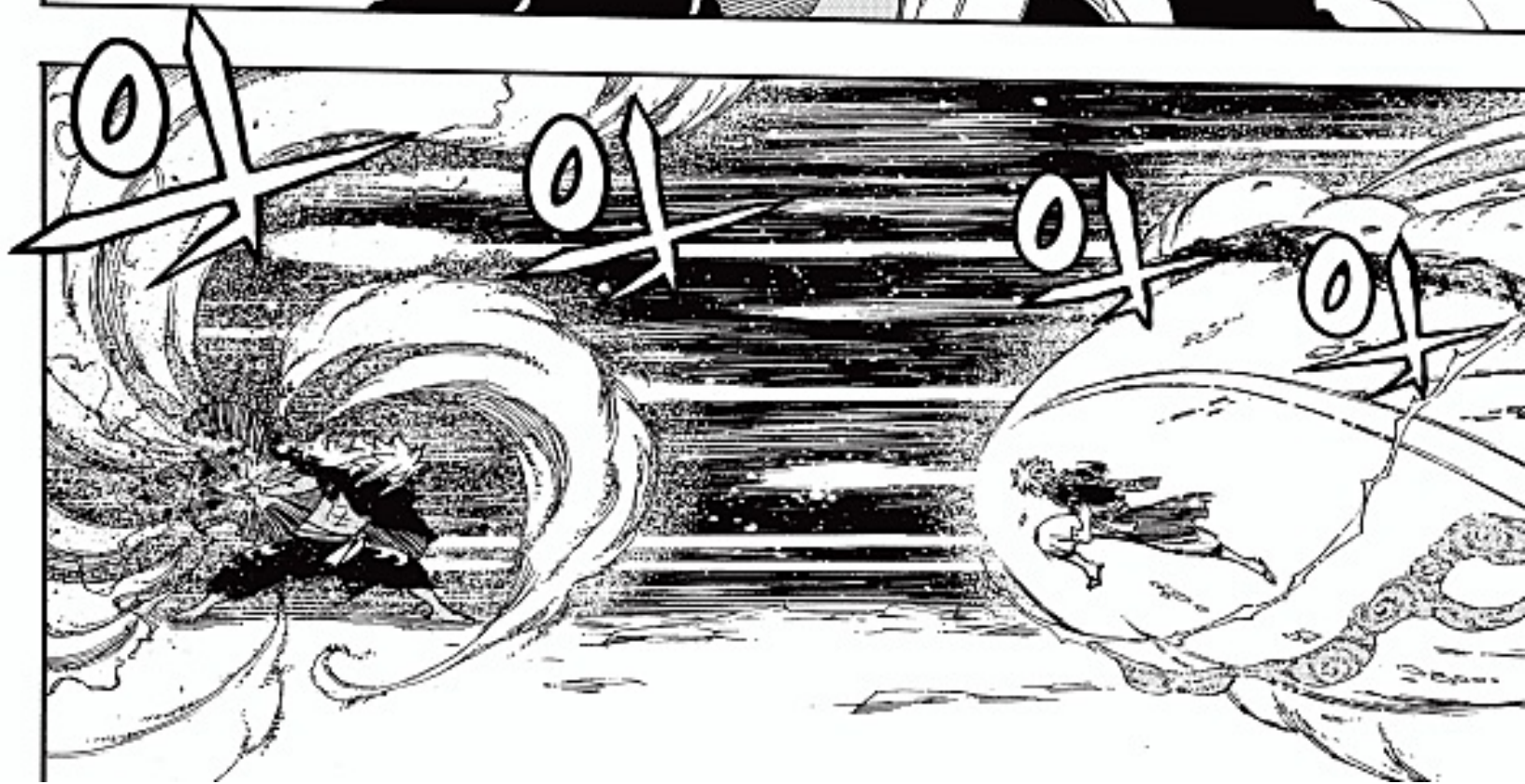


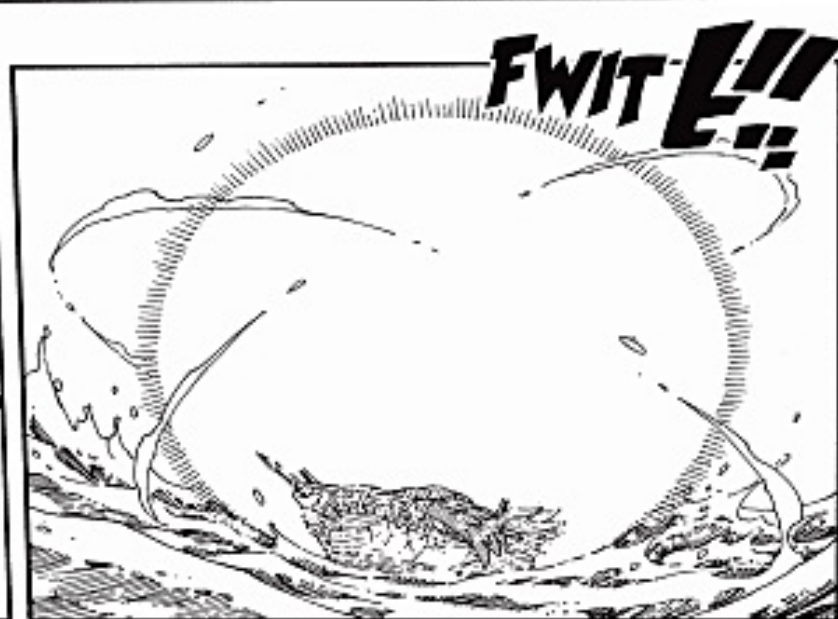
*I got
what you
sent!!!!*

FAIRY TAIL

#544 You're the king

HIRO MASHIMA

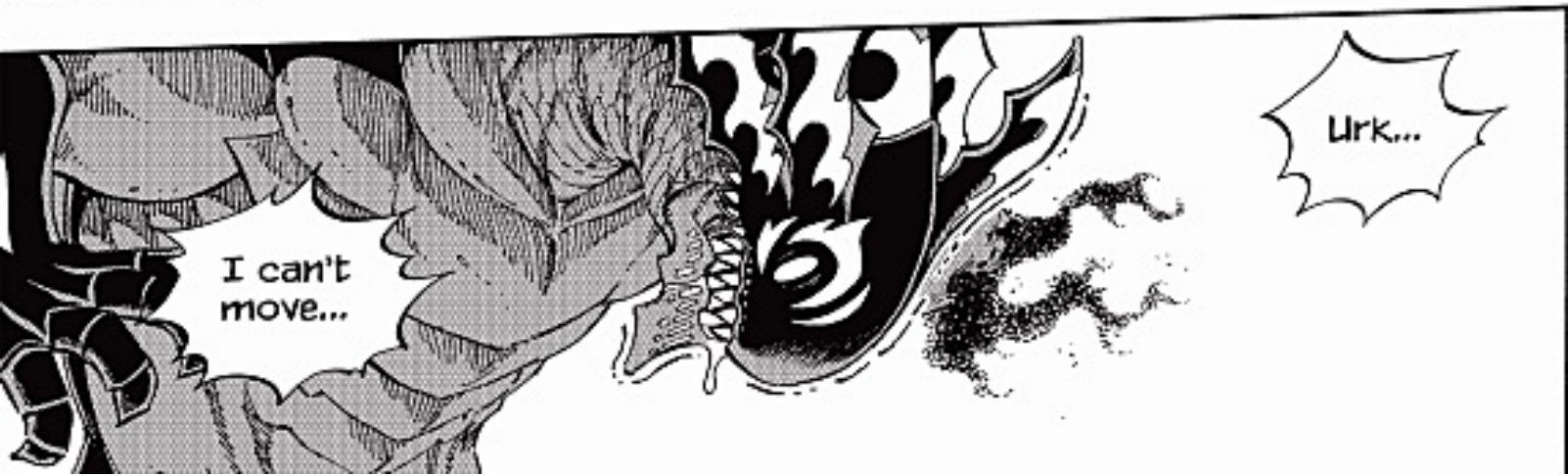














All the
magic from
every wizard
on the
continent
...!!



This
is all the
magic we
got!!!



Get
him!!!!



SHIIING

**FAIRY
SPHERE!!!!**



GACHIIING

*Destroy
!!!*

*Destroy
!!!*

*Destroy
!!!*

*Destroy
everything
!!!!*

*Destroy
!!!*

*Destroy
!!!*

*Destroy
!!!*

*Destroy
everything
!!!!*

*Destroy
!!!*

*Destroy
!!!*

*Destroy
!!!*

*Destroy
everything
!!!!*

*Destroy
!!!*

*Destroy
!!!*

*Destroy
!!!*

*Destroy
everything
!!!!*



Blood!!!
I want
more
blood!!!



...going
totally
berserk...

He's...



I want to
bathe in more
dragon blood!!!
More!!!
More!!!!



AA

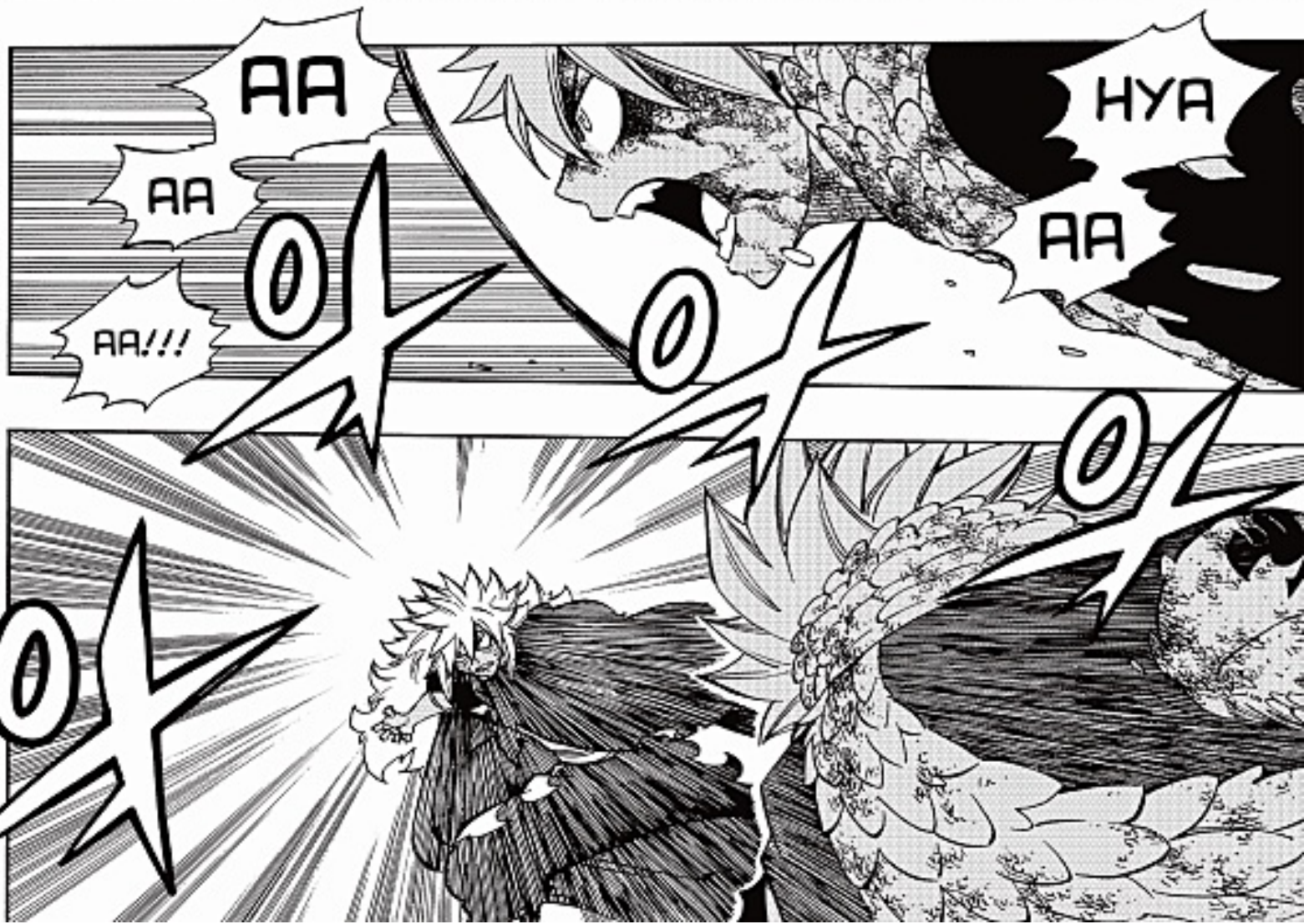
AA

AA!!!



You
can't end
this now,
huh?

Not
on your
own.



Natsu-
san!!!

Please
!!!

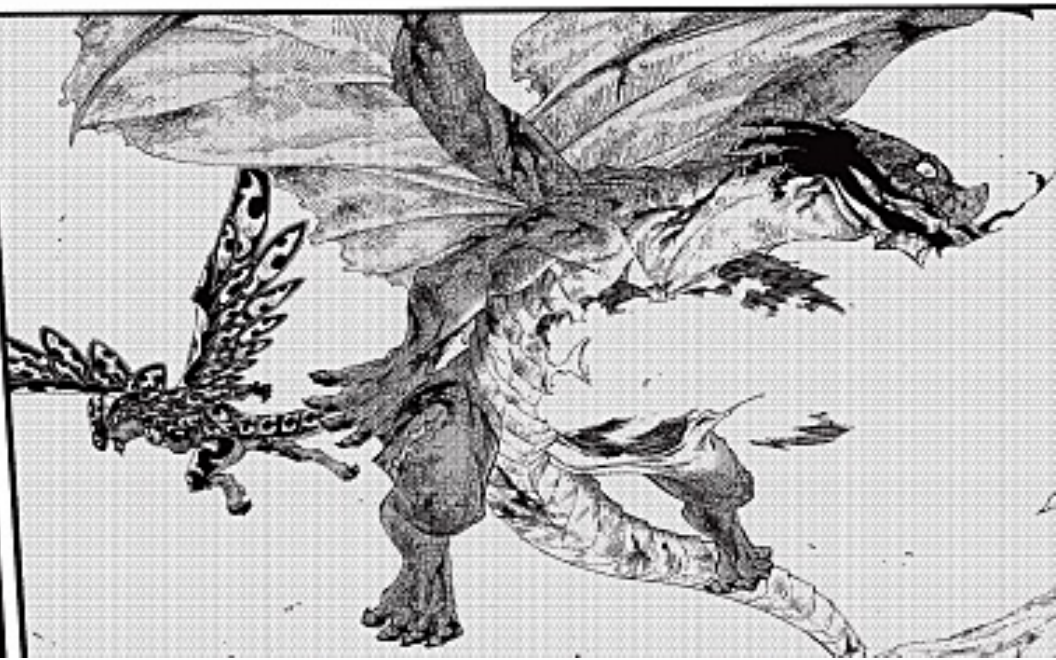
Use it
to bash
him!!!

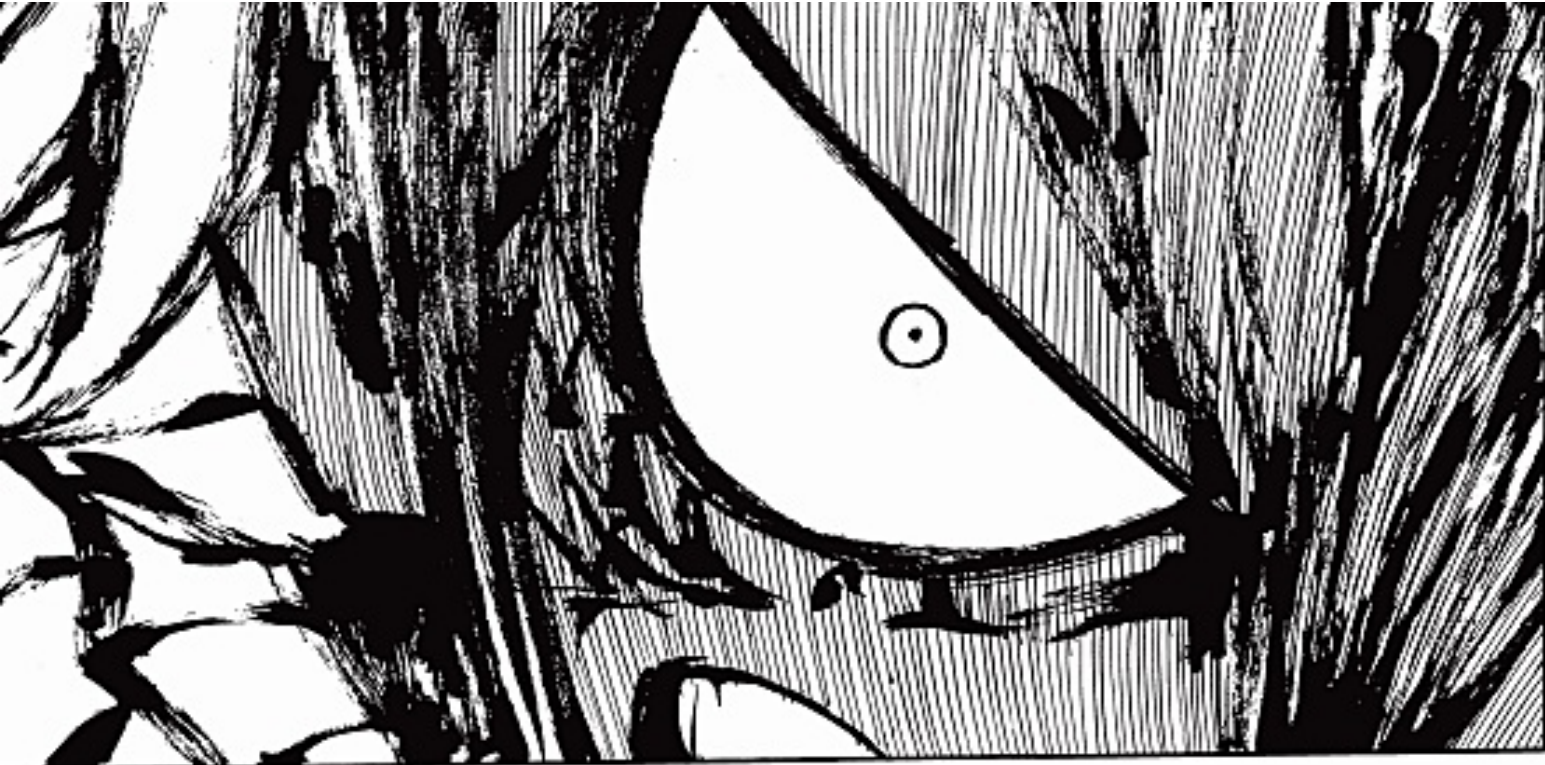
Natsu!!

Only
you can
do it!!!

This is
everything
we got!!

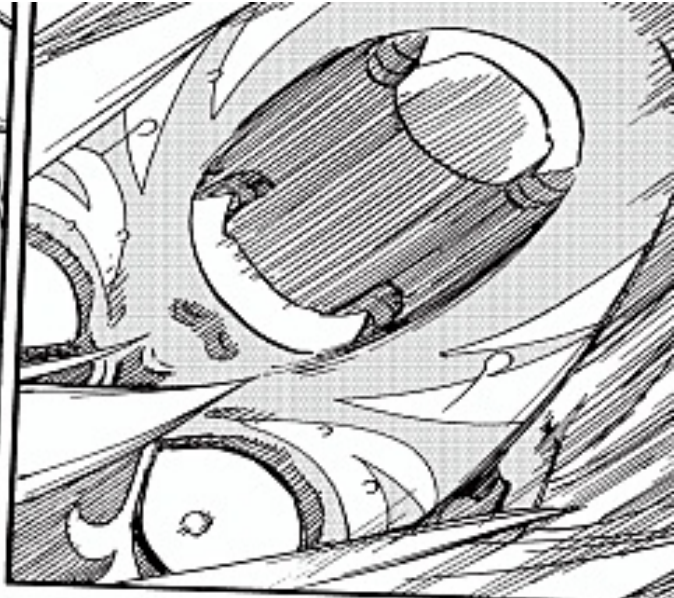












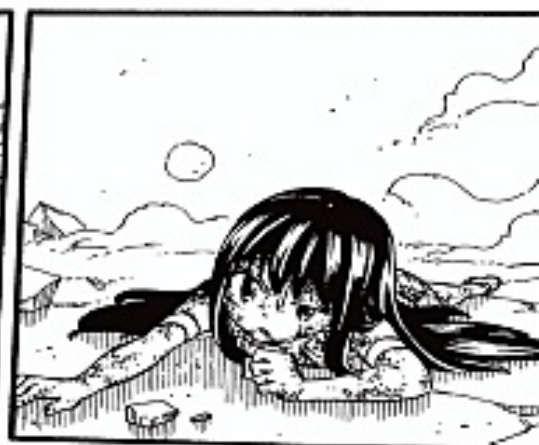
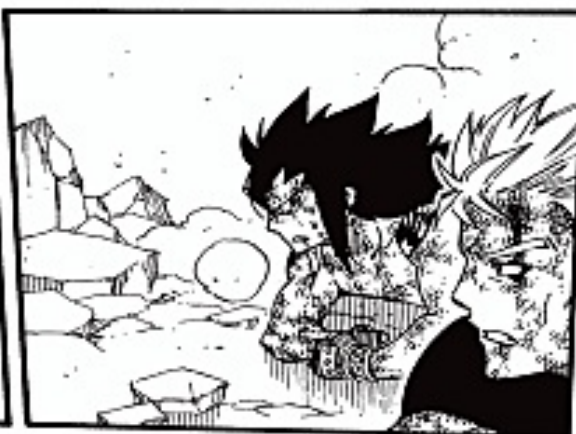
*Not enough
destruction...*

*Not
enough
blood...*



*It isn't
enough...*

*Not
enough
tears...*



*Everything
has to be...*

... mine...



*... destroy
everything...*

*I
must...*

That's why
you gotta take
good care of
what you *can*
get!!

...!

Ain't
no way
everything's
gonna be
yours!

... has
to be
mine...

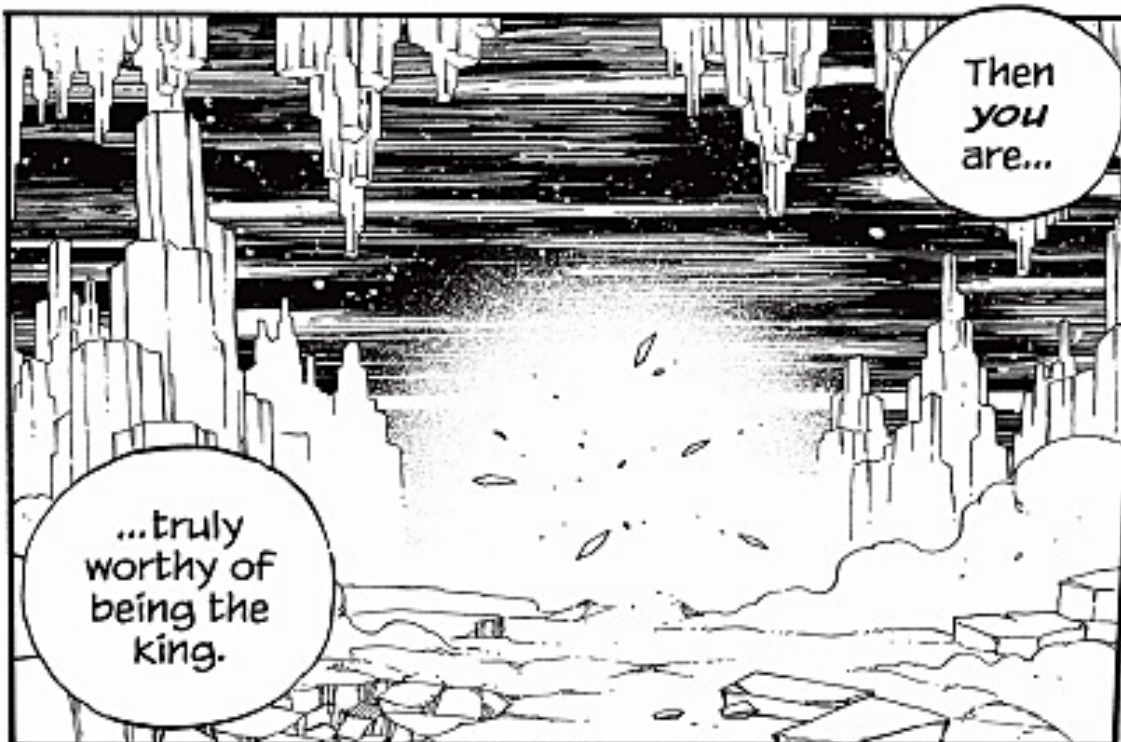
*Every-
thing...*

**Don't
get so
greedy!!**

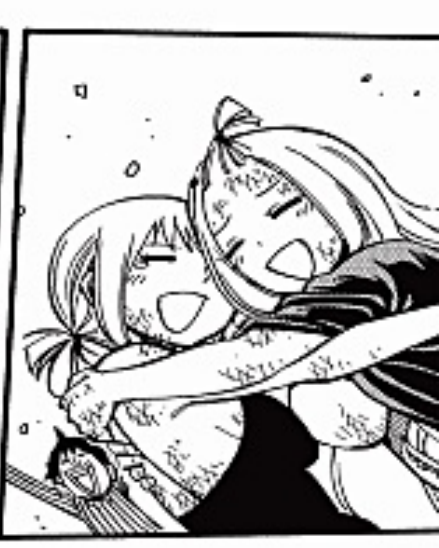
'Cause
for me...

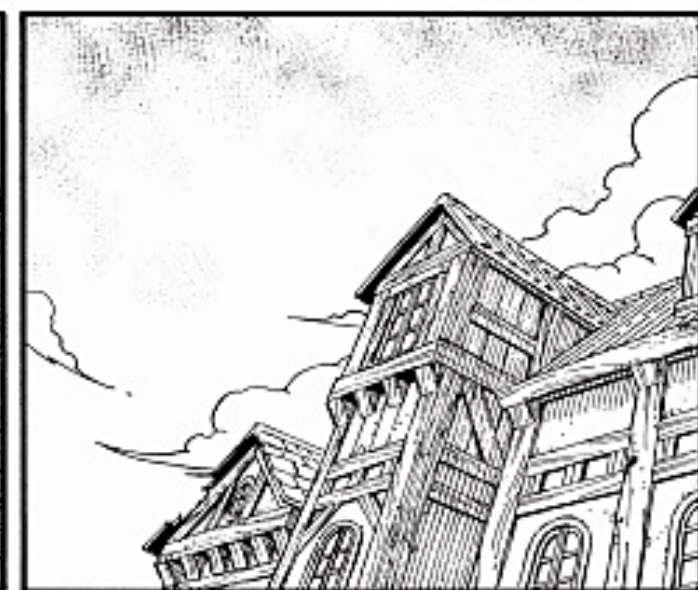
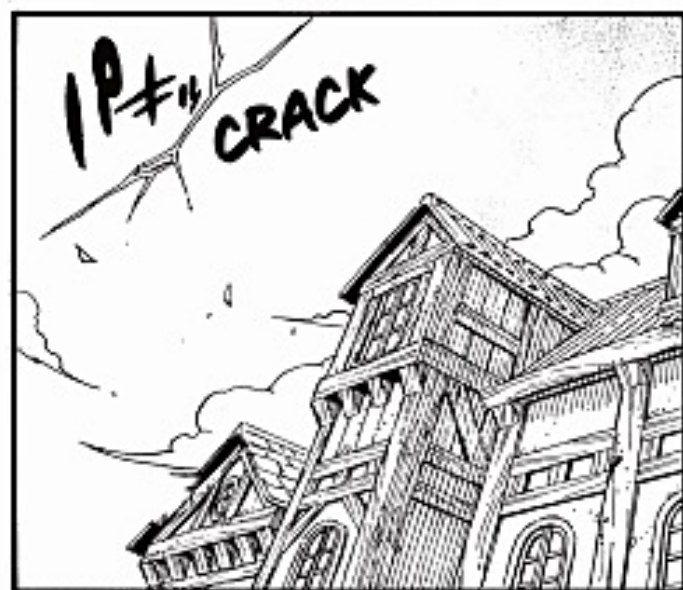
...as long as
I got my
friends, I
don't need
nothing else!

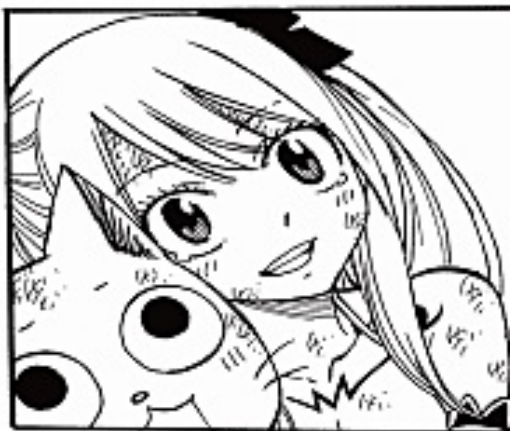


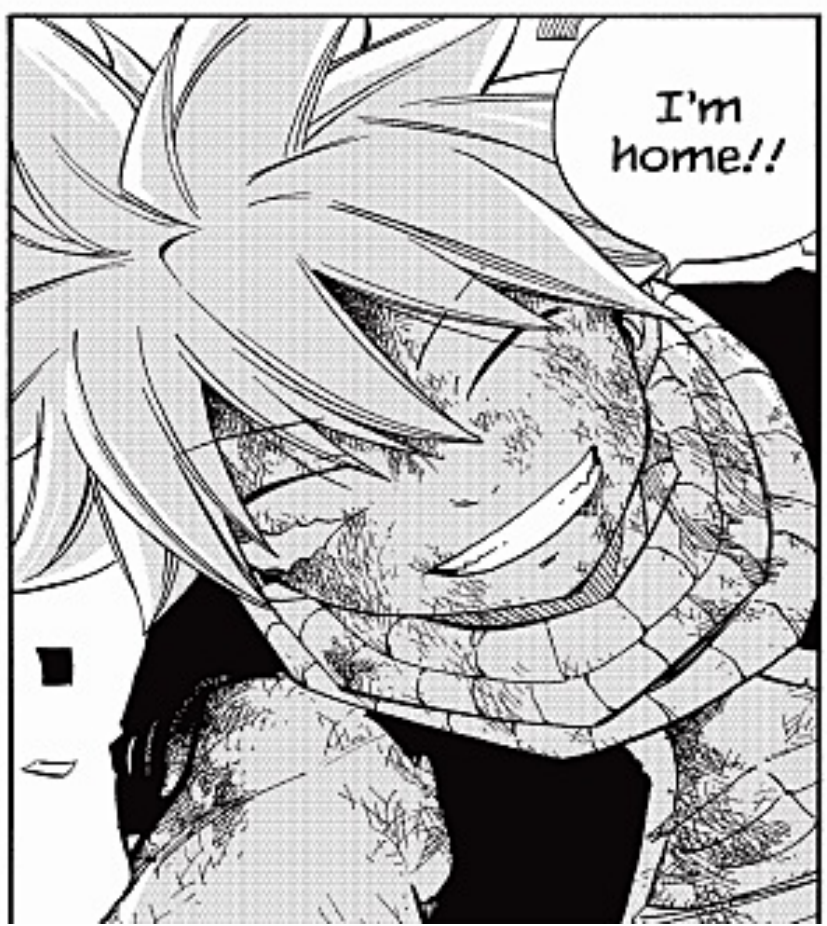














*On that
day, one
age of the
world came
to an end.*

*Now...
Let's go
back to the
guild!!*

*But the end
of an era
is also the
beginning
of a brand-
new one!*

The
year is
X793.

*A year
has
passed
since that
battle.*

The Kemu
Zaleon Literary
Prize for best
new novelist has
been awarded.

And I'd like
to introduce
the recipient
now!

A lot has happened in the meantime.

May I present...
the author of *The
Adventure of Iris*,
Lucy Heartfilia-
san!

*But
we're all
doing
fine.*

OH!!



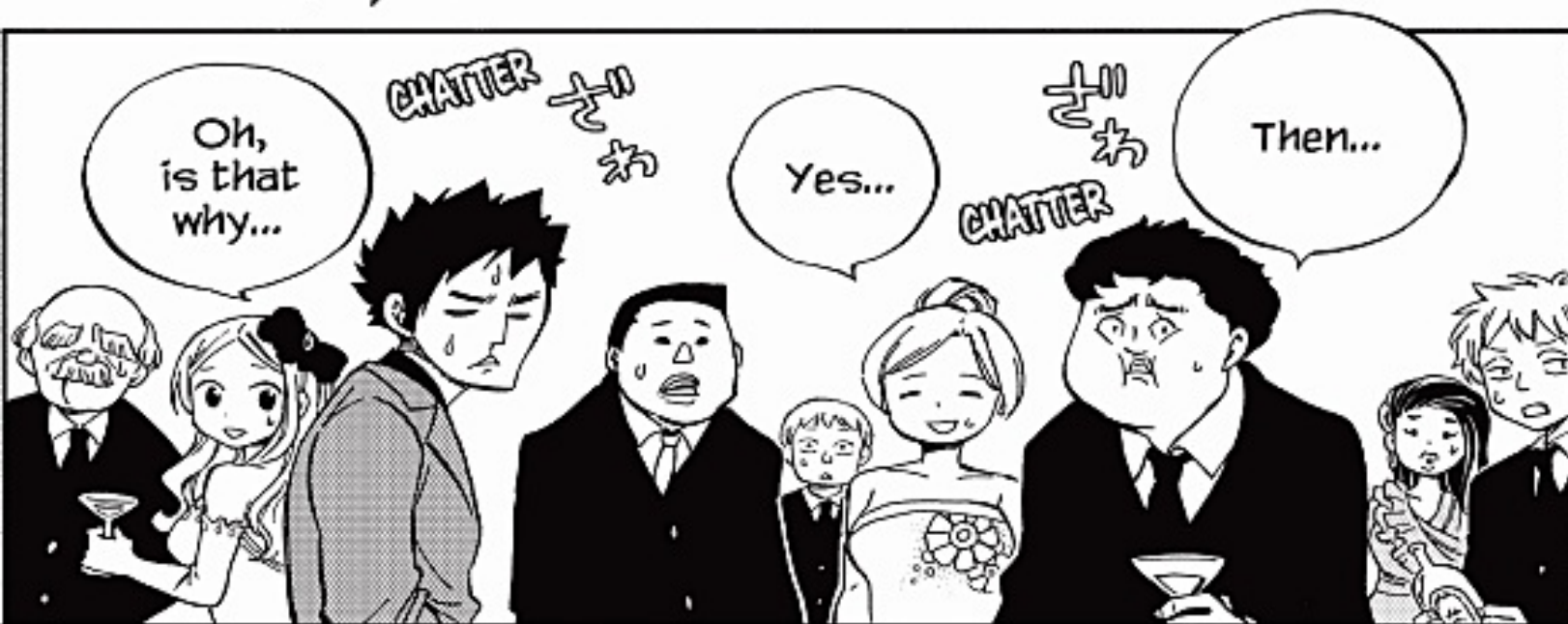
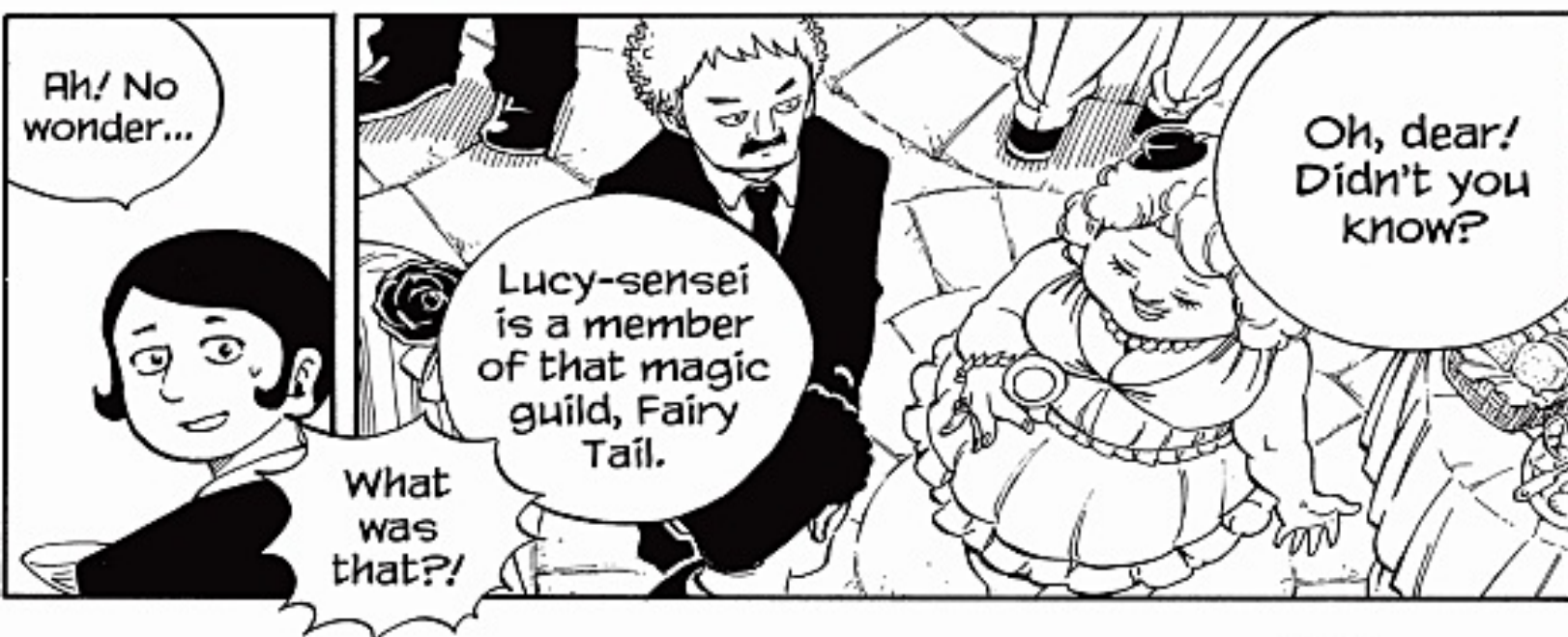
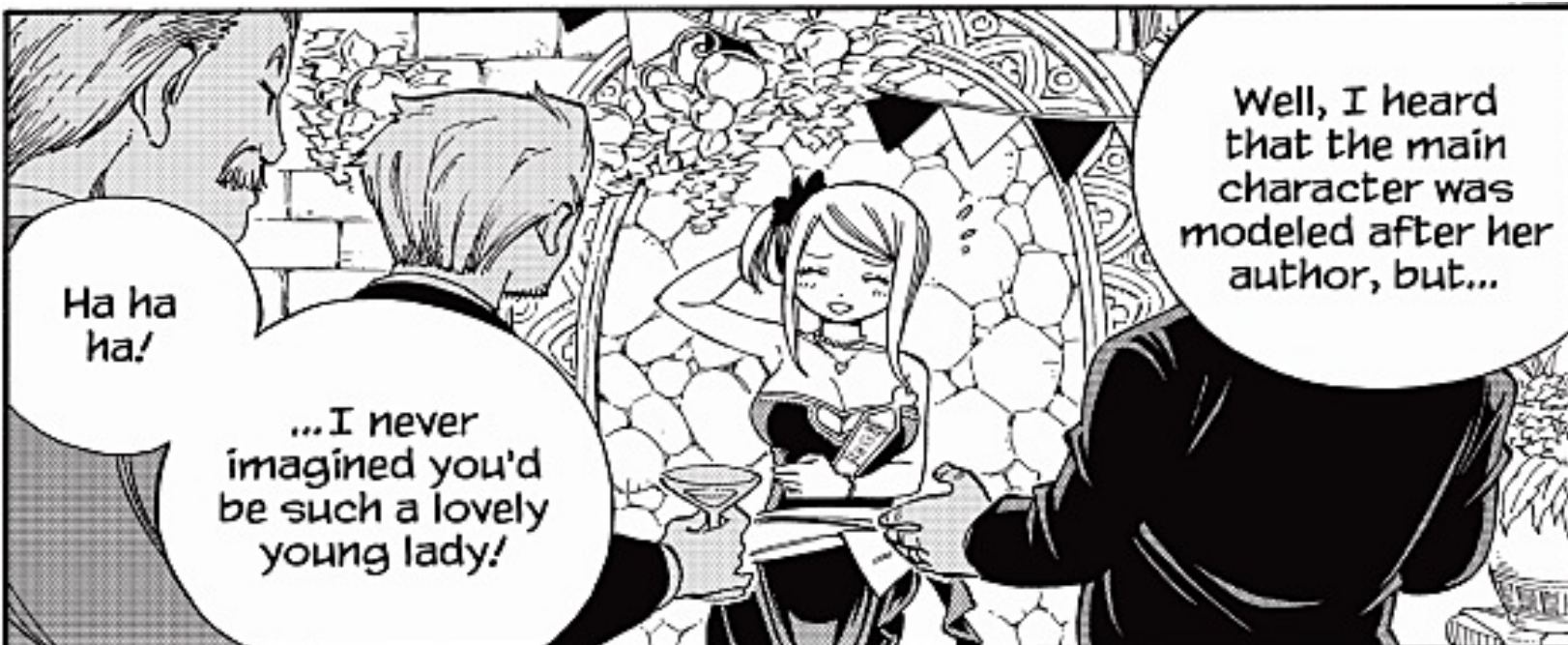
Chapter 545:
Friends You Can't Do Without

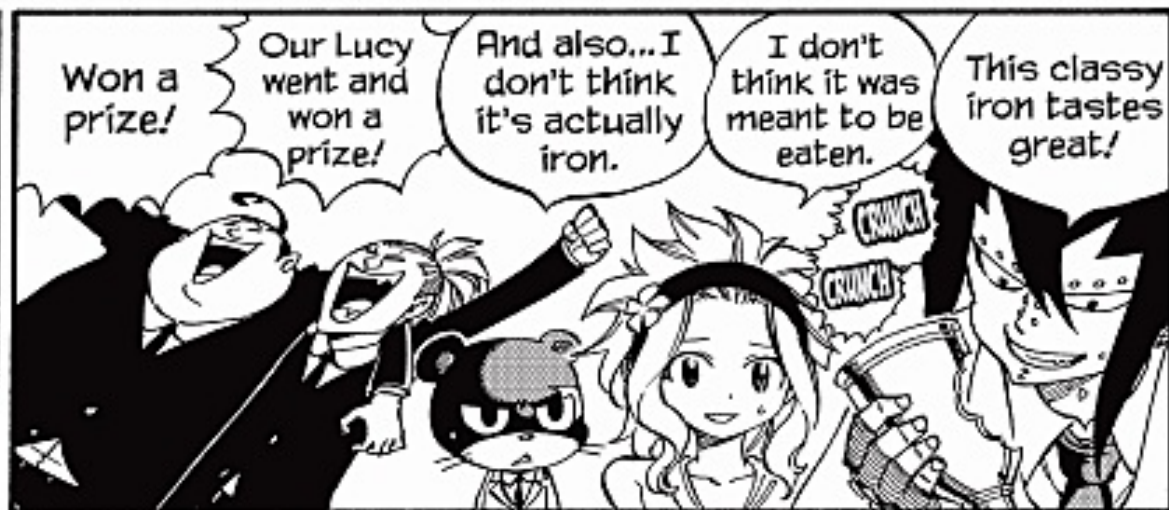




FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル







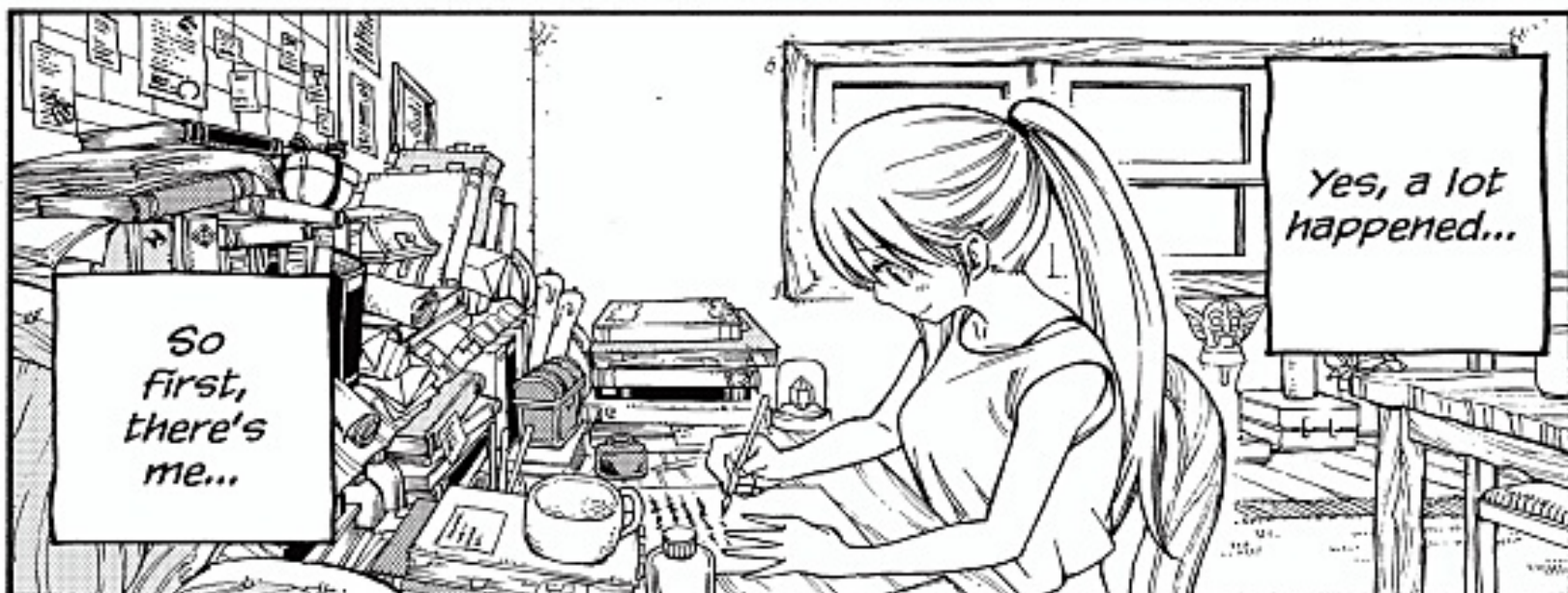
This is my
award gala,
and they're
messing it
all up!

Honestly...



So
first,
there's
me...

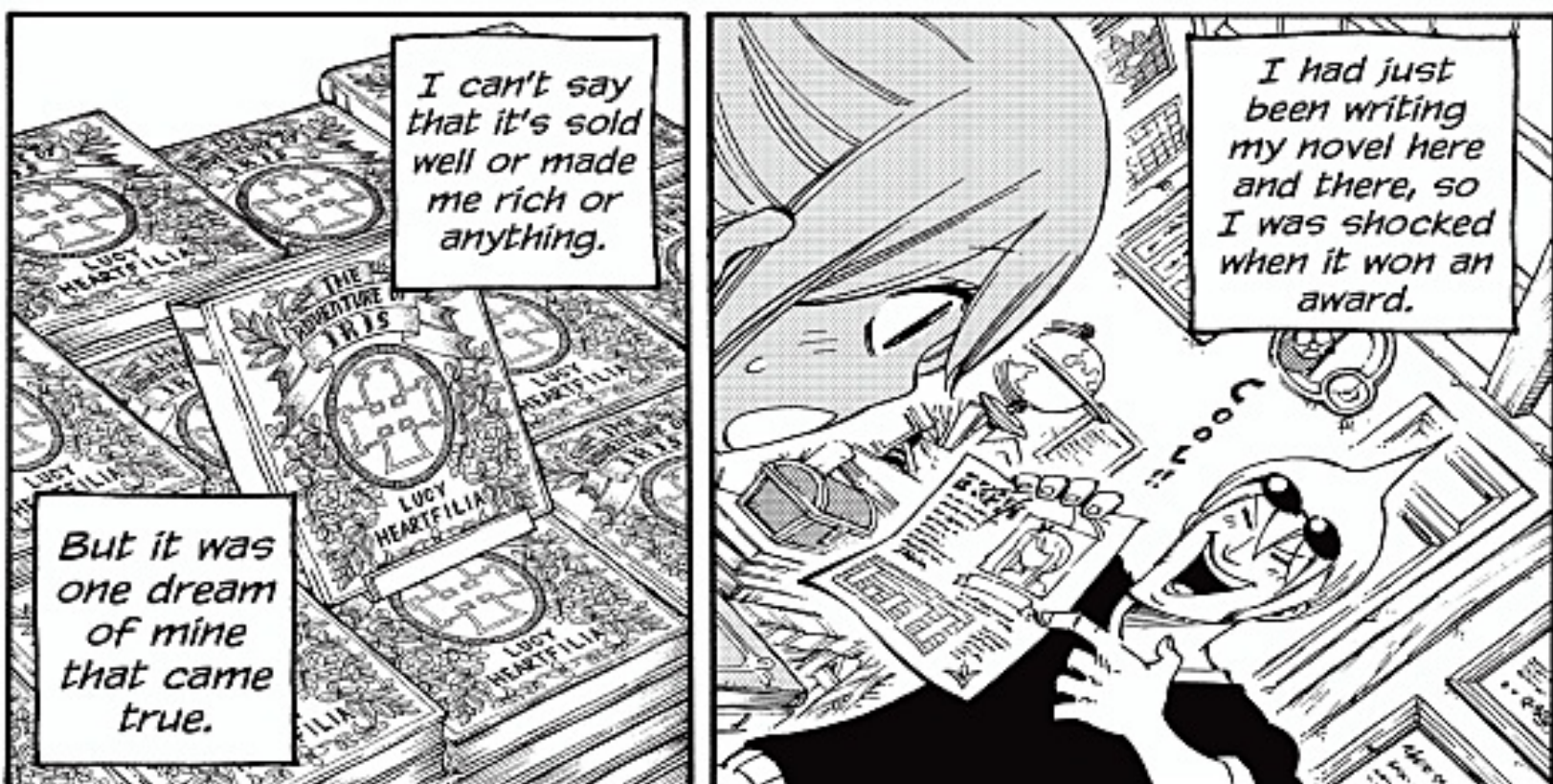
Yes, a lot
happened...

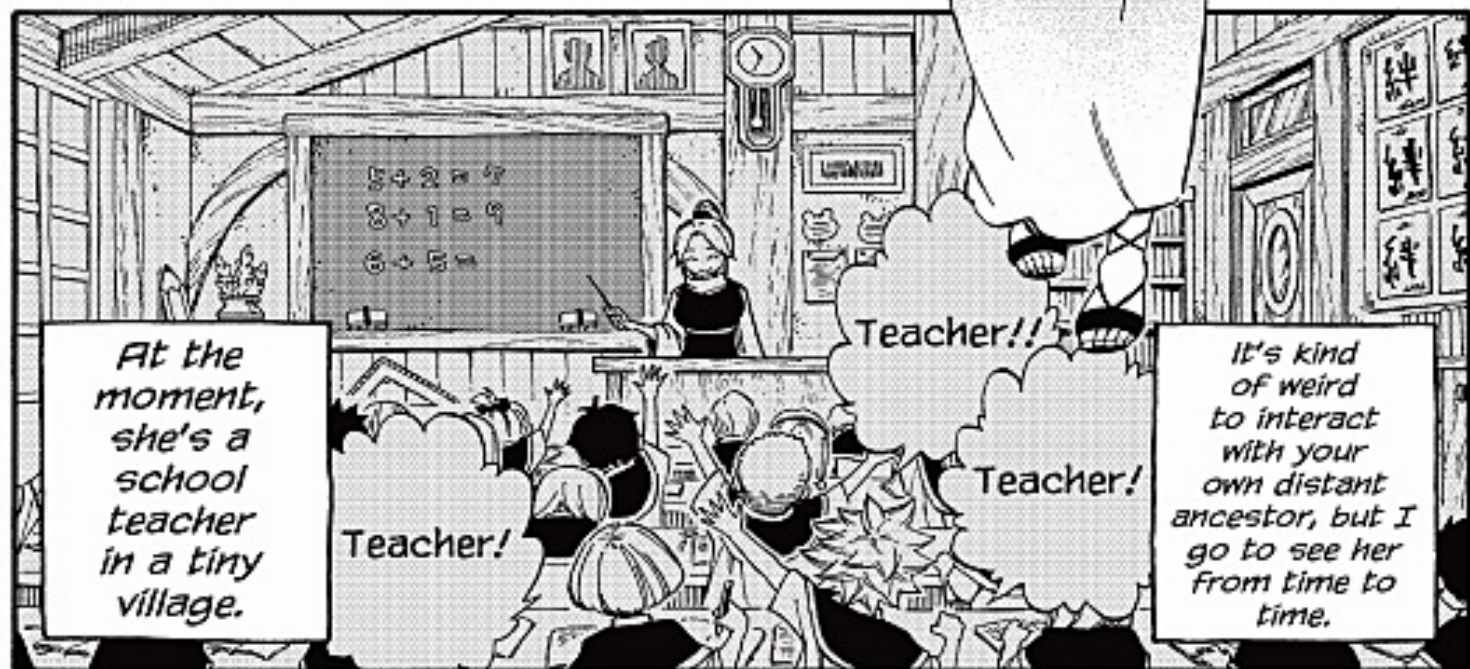


I can't say
that it's sold
well or made
me rich or
anything.

But it was
one dream
of mine
that came
true.

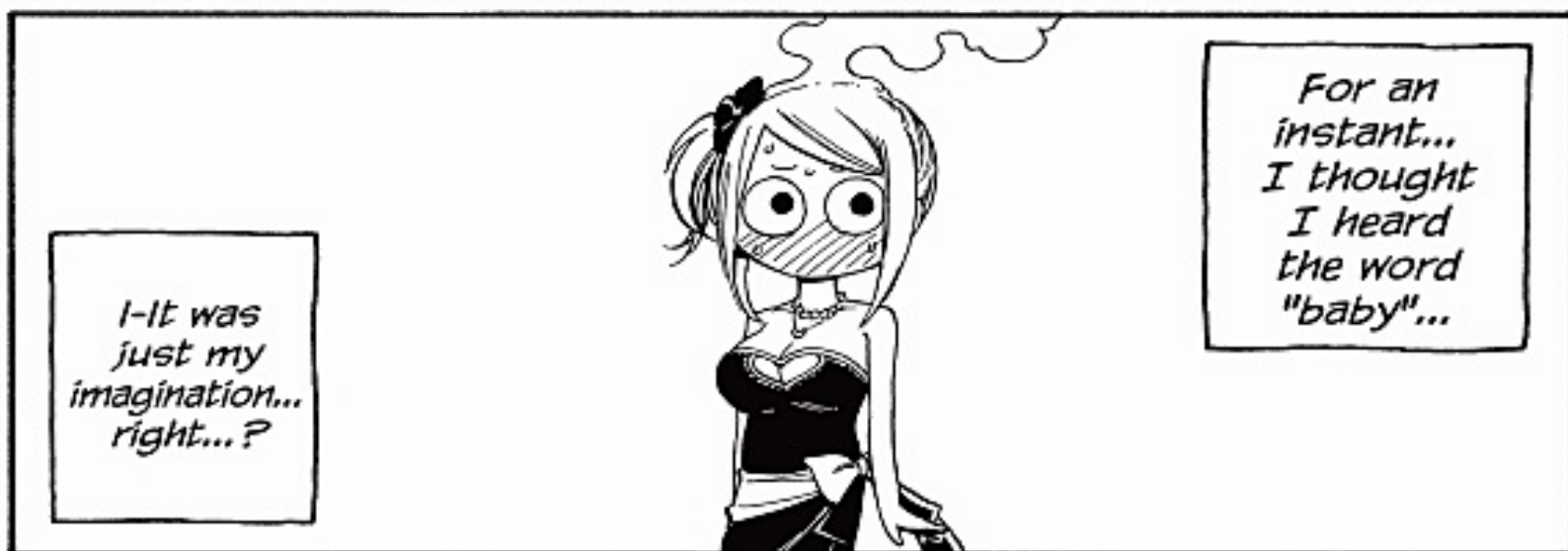
I had just
been writing
my novel here
and there, so
I was shocked
when it won an
award.





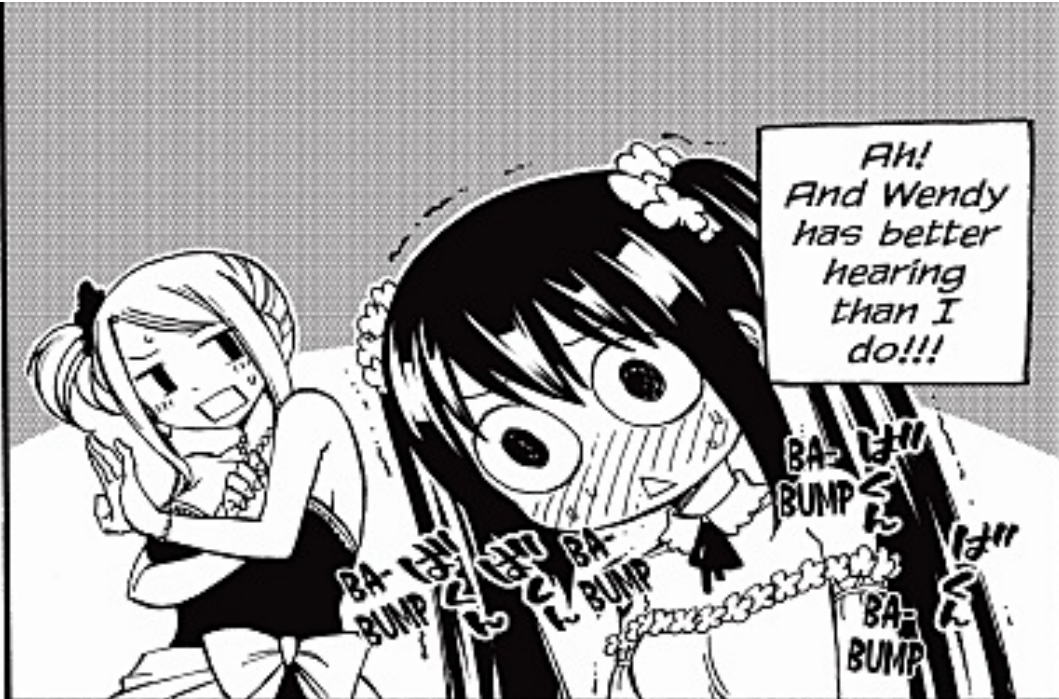
Kanji Practice: Bonds







She and Carla spend a lot of time with Lamia Scale these days.



Ah! And Wendy has better hearing than I do!!!



Chill out.

You'd better take part next year, jerk!

She mentioned that nobody ever knows what Toby is thinking.



Slayer love! Slayer love! Forever!

They even forced Wendy to participate in their Day of Thanksgiving again.



That's amazing, Sherria!!

Look, Wendy!!

And that Sherria has relearned how to do a tiny bit of magic.

Ohh!

I like hearing about them from her. It's clear they're making her happy.

You did it!!



That's Minerva-sama for you! ♡

Heh heh.

Fro thinks so, too!

URP!

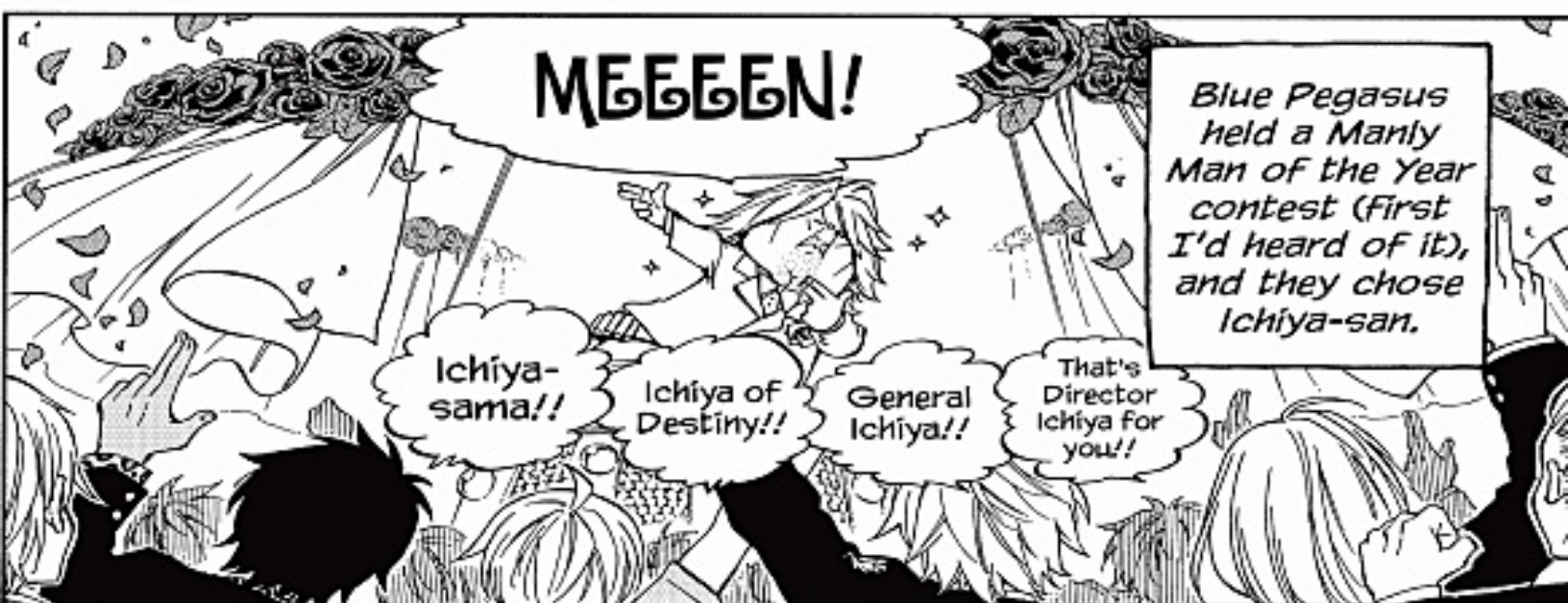
The princess is just too strong...

Speaking of the other guilds...

Saber Tooth had another eating contest, and Minerva ran away with it again.

Sting-kun!!

Banners: Tiger, Tiger, Tiger



MEEEEN!

Blue Pegasus held a Manly Man of the Year contest (first I'd heard of it), and they chose Ichiya-san.

Ichiya-sama!!

Ichiya of Destiny!!

General Ichiya!!

That's Director Ichiya for you!!

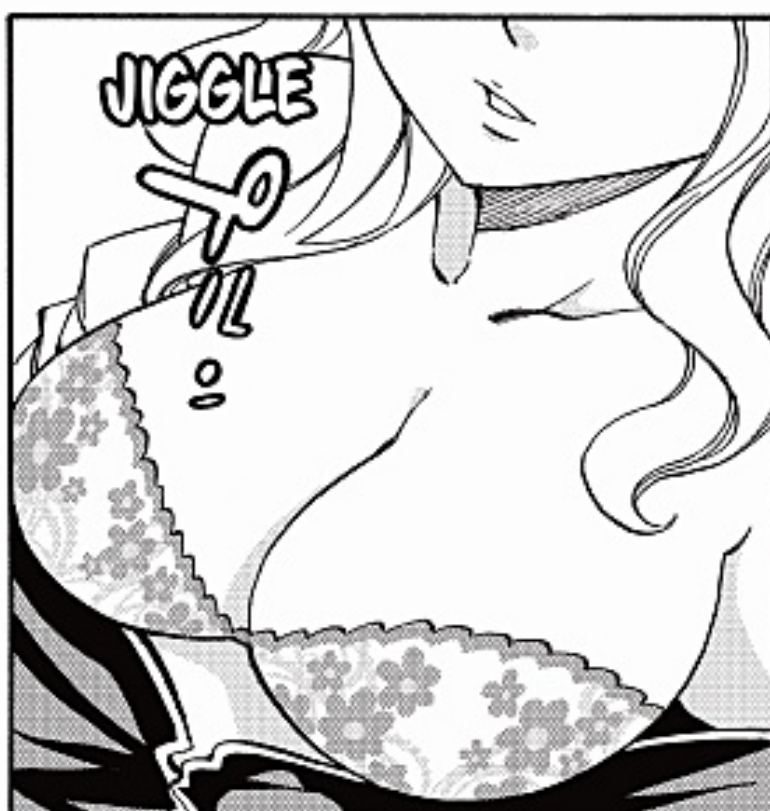
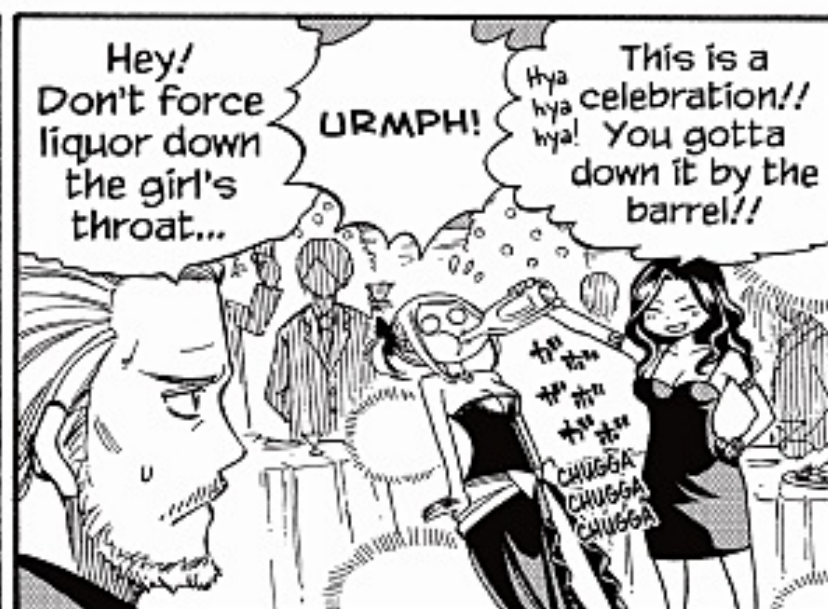


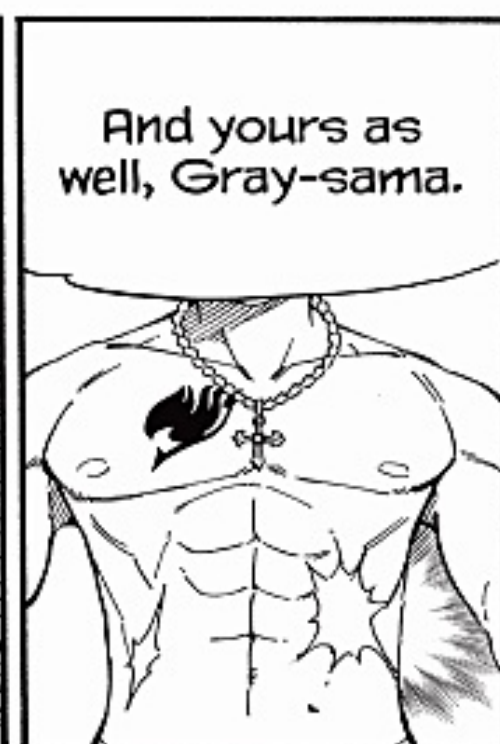
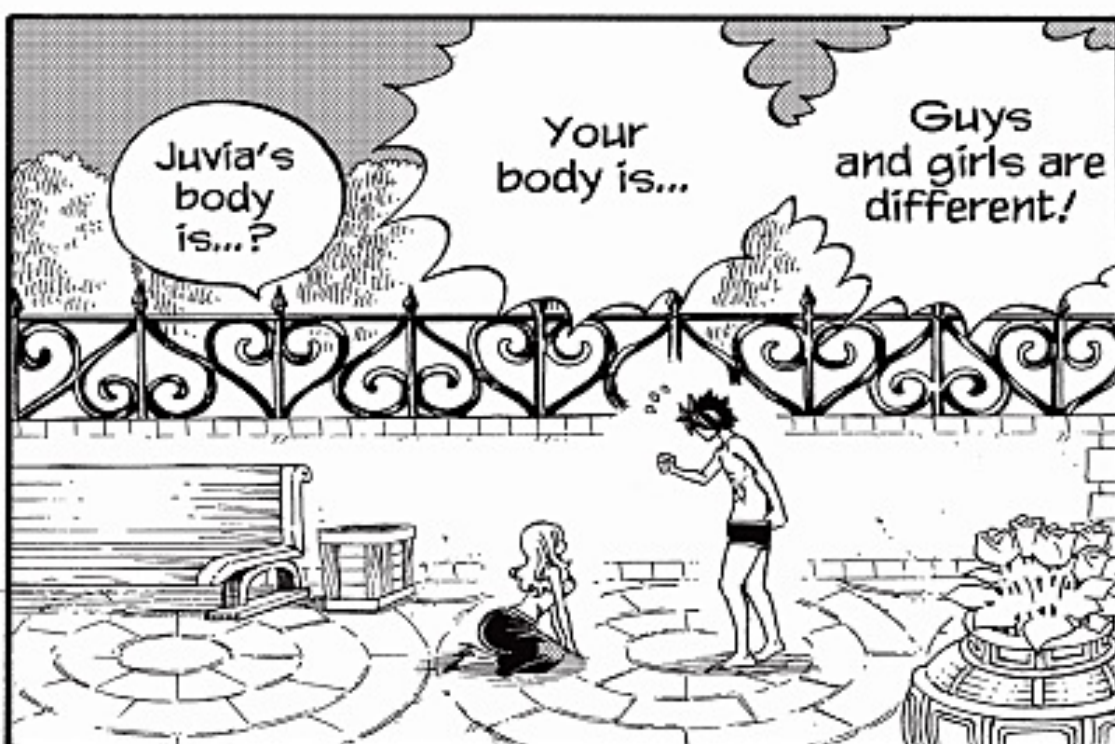
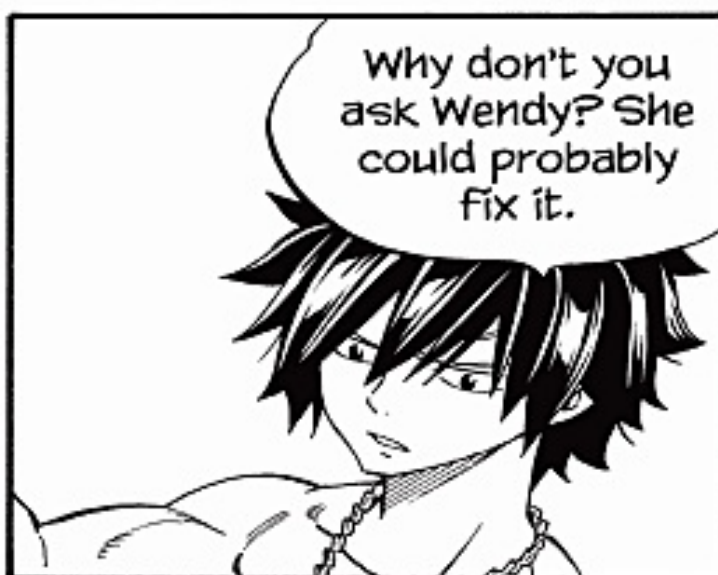
Never underestimate us!

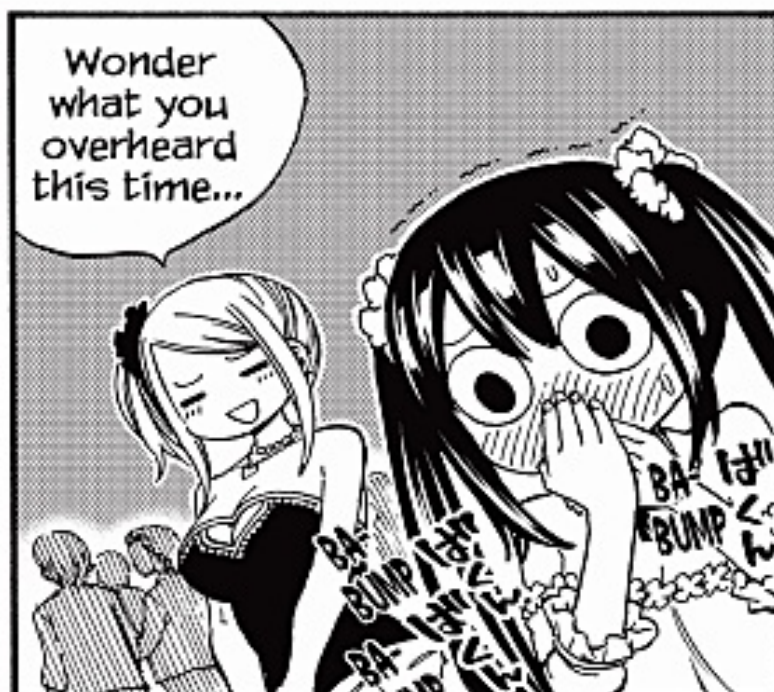
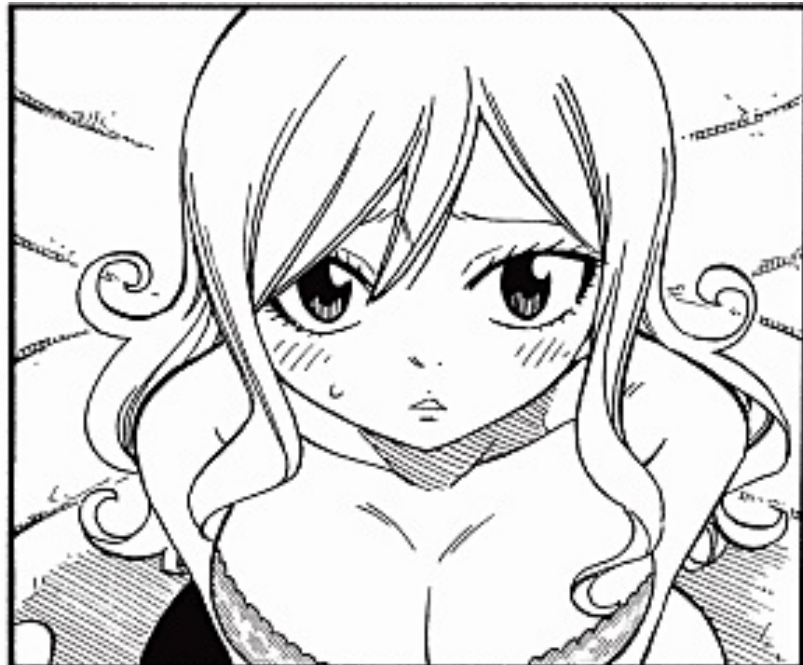
We're all pumped up!!

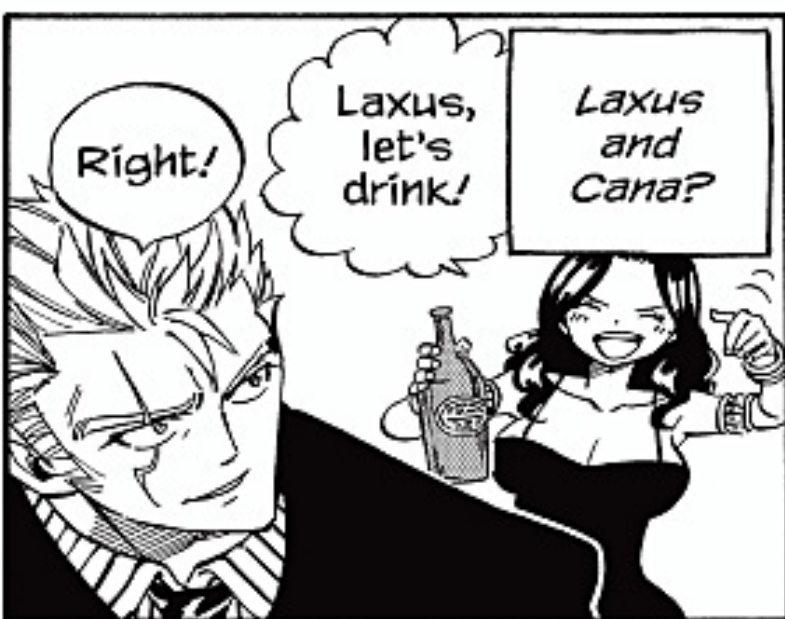
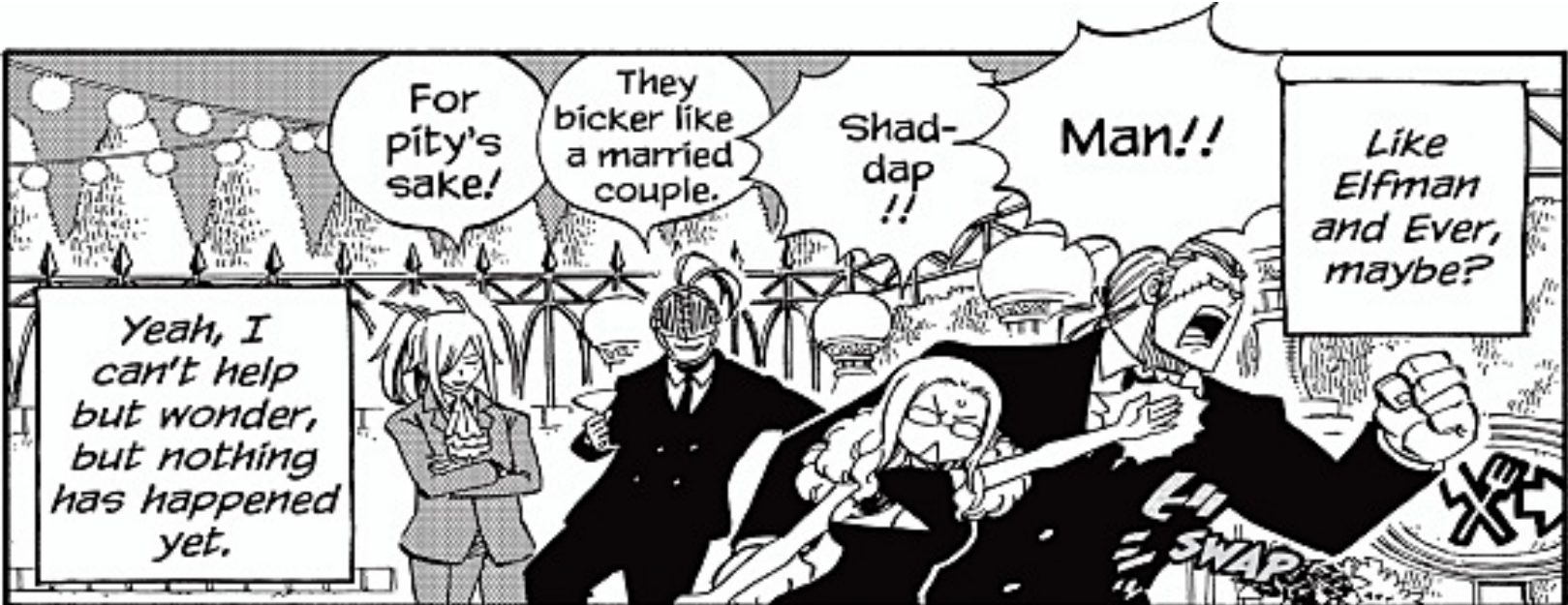
What am I even accomplishing here?

And Mermaid Heel are the exclusive models for Weekly Sorcerer.









GLEAM ✧ = = - ✧

Heh!

There are way too many rumors about Laxus!!!

Personally, I have little skill with the written word. At one point, I wrote a thank-you missive to a guild and they responded by attacking me.

...

!

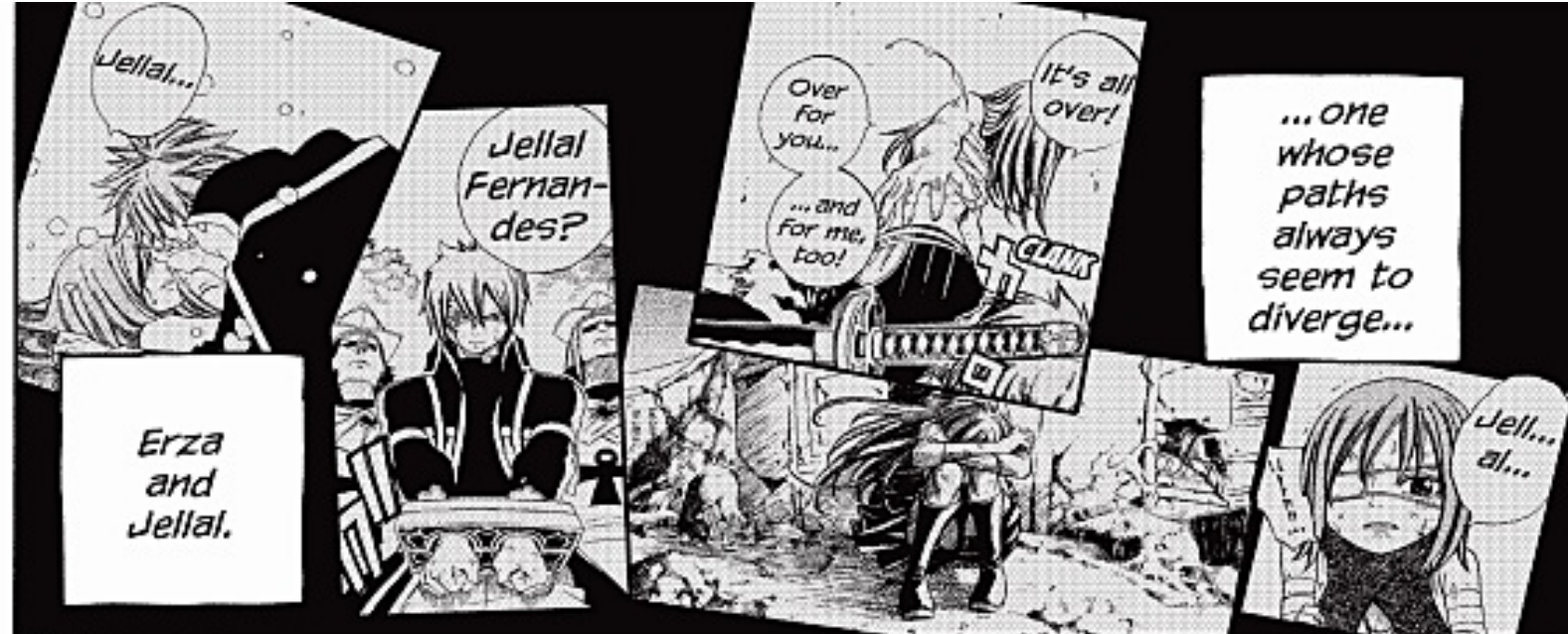
I must say that I am impressed! I never dreamed you'd win an award!

I feel pride at simply being your guildmate.

By which I mean, congratulations, Lucy.

Yes!
The pair I'm most curious about is...

Thank you, Erza!



Erza
and
Jellal.

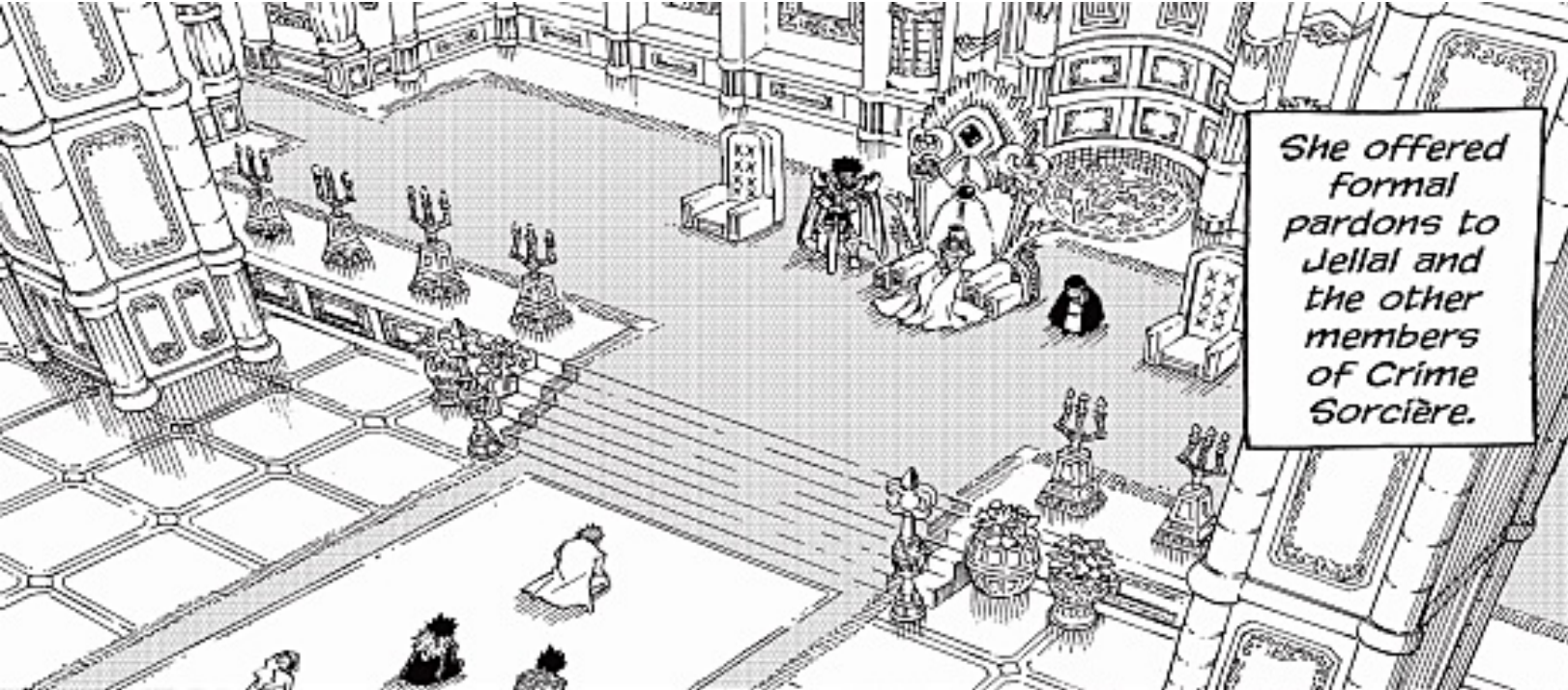
And
Princess
Hisui
assumed
the throne.

Let me come
back to that in a
bit. First, some
background... The
previous king of
Fiore abdicated
his position to
retire.

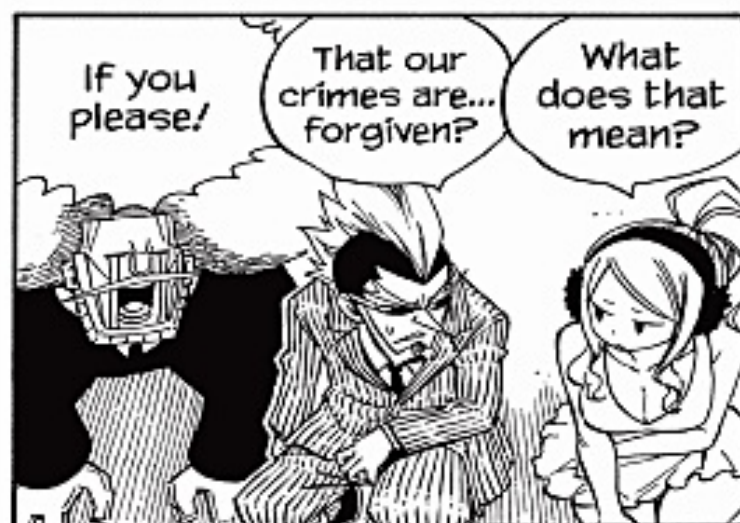
She began
her rule by
restoring
diplomatic
relations with
the Alvarez
Empire...

...and she's
been working
day and night
to bring
prosperity
back to the
country.

In that
same
vein...



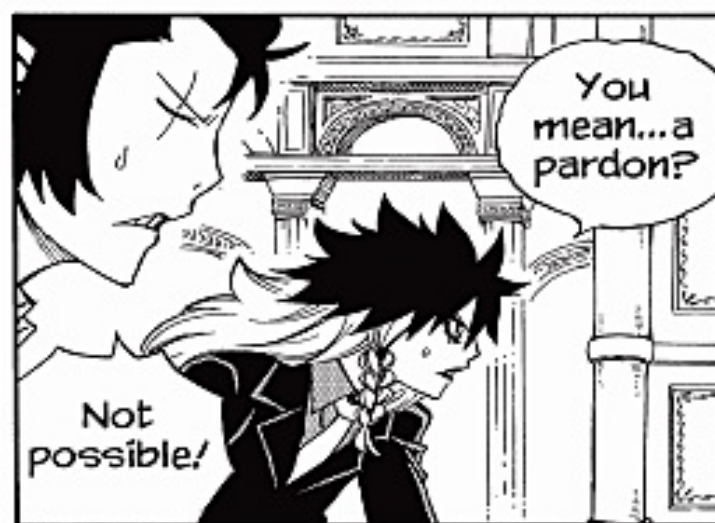
She offered formal pardons to Jellal and the other members of Crime Sorcière.



If you please!

That our crimes are... forgiven?

What does that mean?



You mean... a pardon?

Not possible!



But we are also aware that you are atoning for your crimes.

And that your hearts are set on making a better tomorrow.

We have heard about your circumstances...

...and the details of your pasts.

B-But we... were in a dark guild...



...for the
sake of the
people.

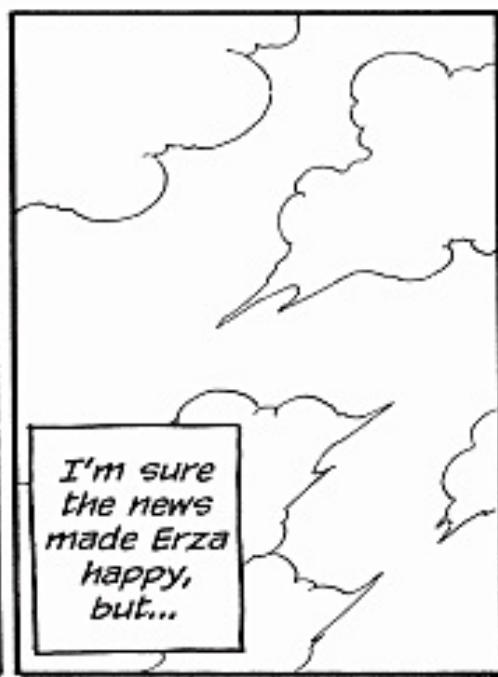
So it is
our wish
that you
live...



Live...



It is
complicated.



*I'm sure
the news
made Erza
happy,
but...*



*And that's
how Jellal
and the
others were
finally set
free.*



Aw! I can never figure her out!

It's way too complicated, Lucy!!! Can't you write clearer sentences?!

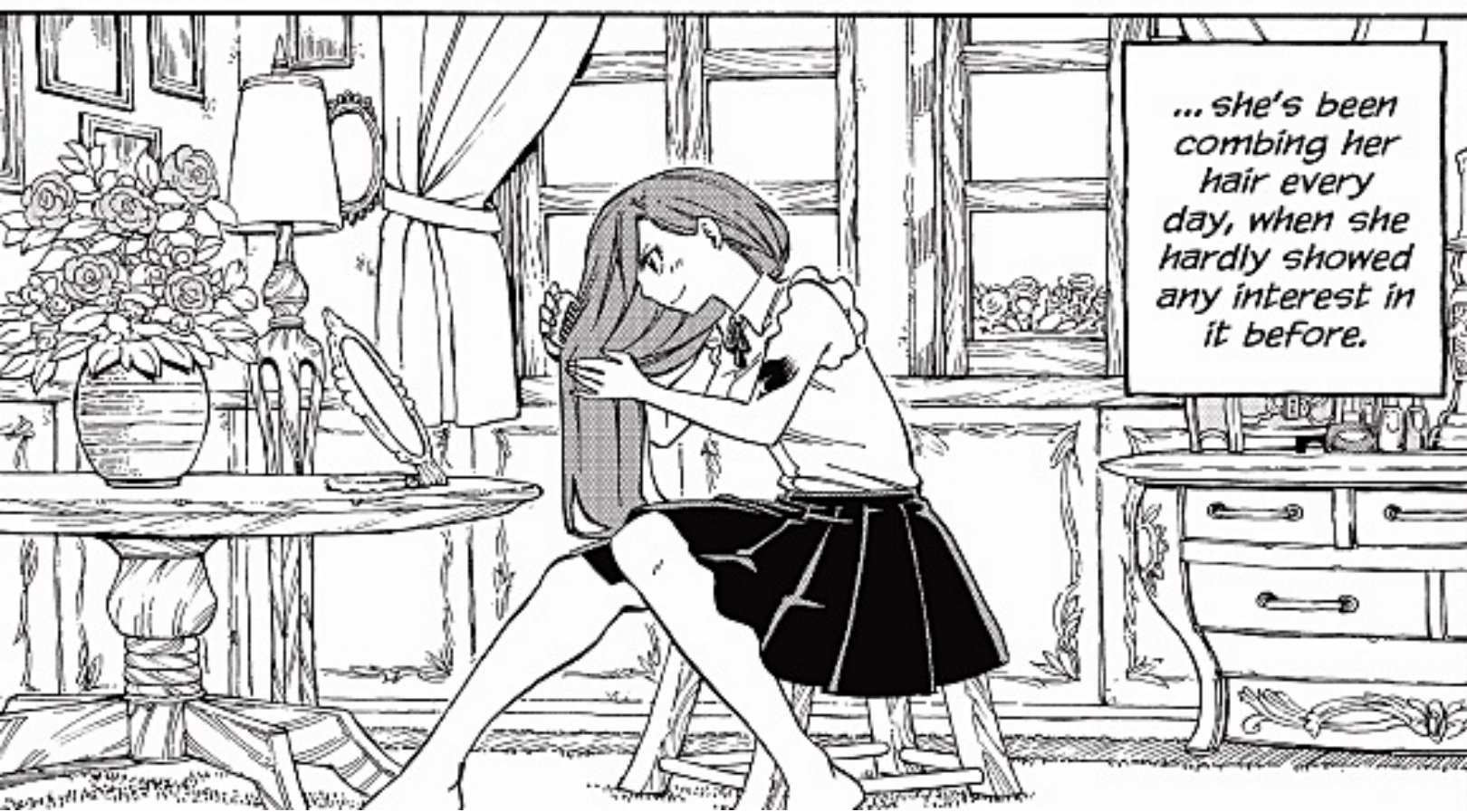


...is that ever since the pardon...



One thing I do know...

This is so hard to read!



... she's been combing her hair every day, when she hardly showed any interest in it before.

Listen, one
and all! It was
I who raised
Lucy!

Wonderful!
Congratulations!

Everything
she knows, I
taught her!!

RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE

RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE

His legs
haven't been
the same after
what happened
that day.

Quit
getting
carried
away!!

Now,
now...

OW!!

THANK

Every now
and then, he
talks about
that odd
vision he had.

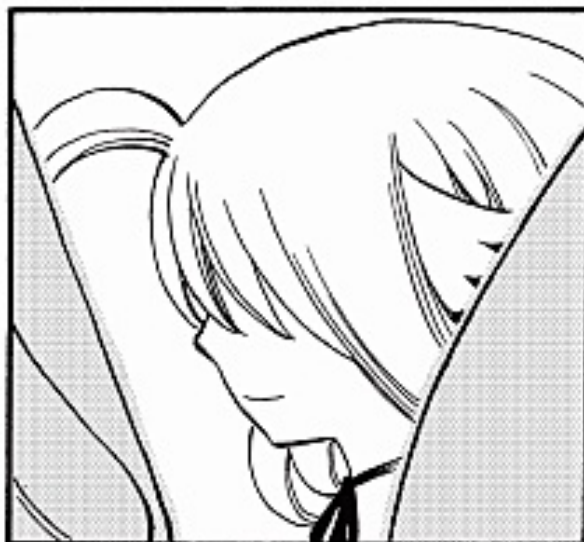
I
wonder...

...what
that truly
was...?

If
you're sick,
then you
shouldn't be
drinking!!

How
dare you
strike a
sick man!

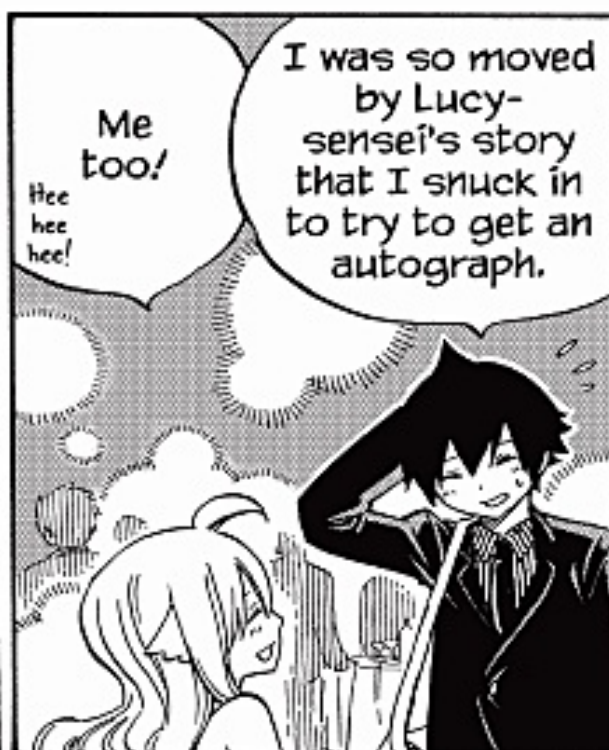
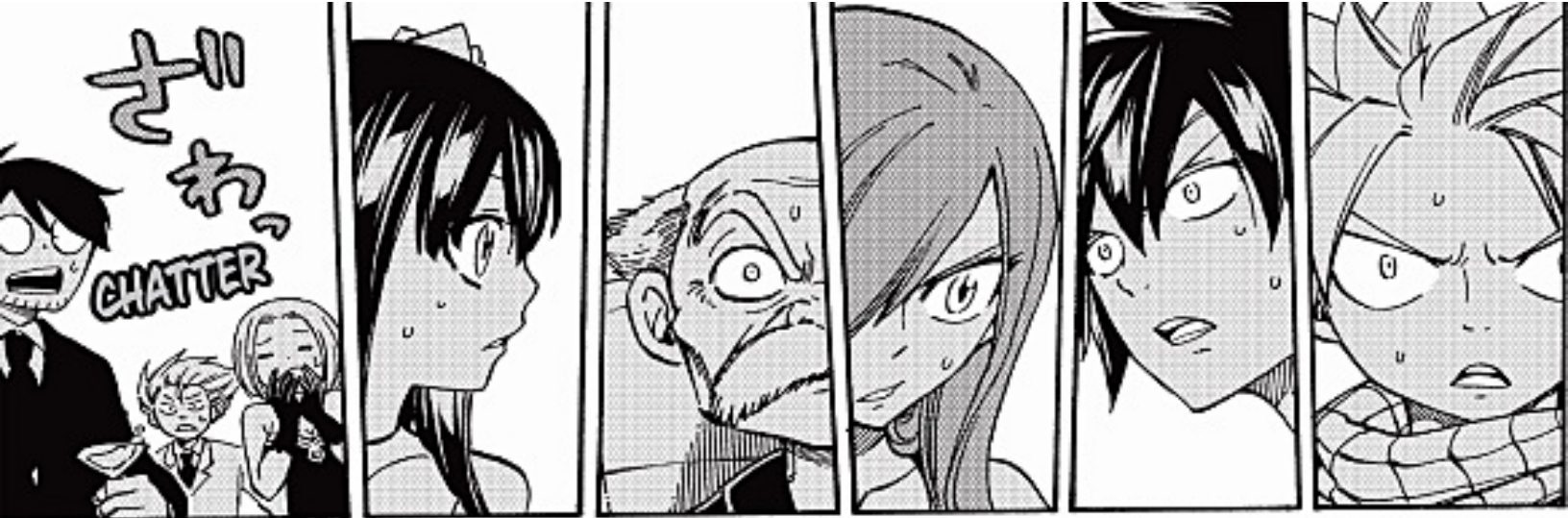
But the
Master's
as feisty
as ever.





I think
you dropped
this.

!

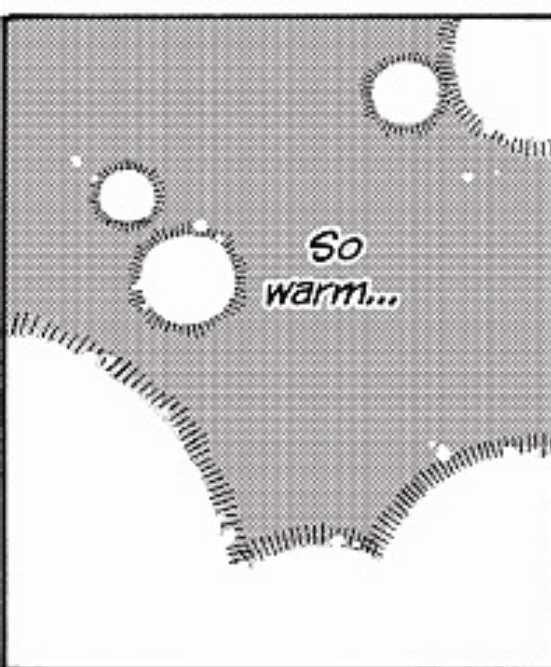


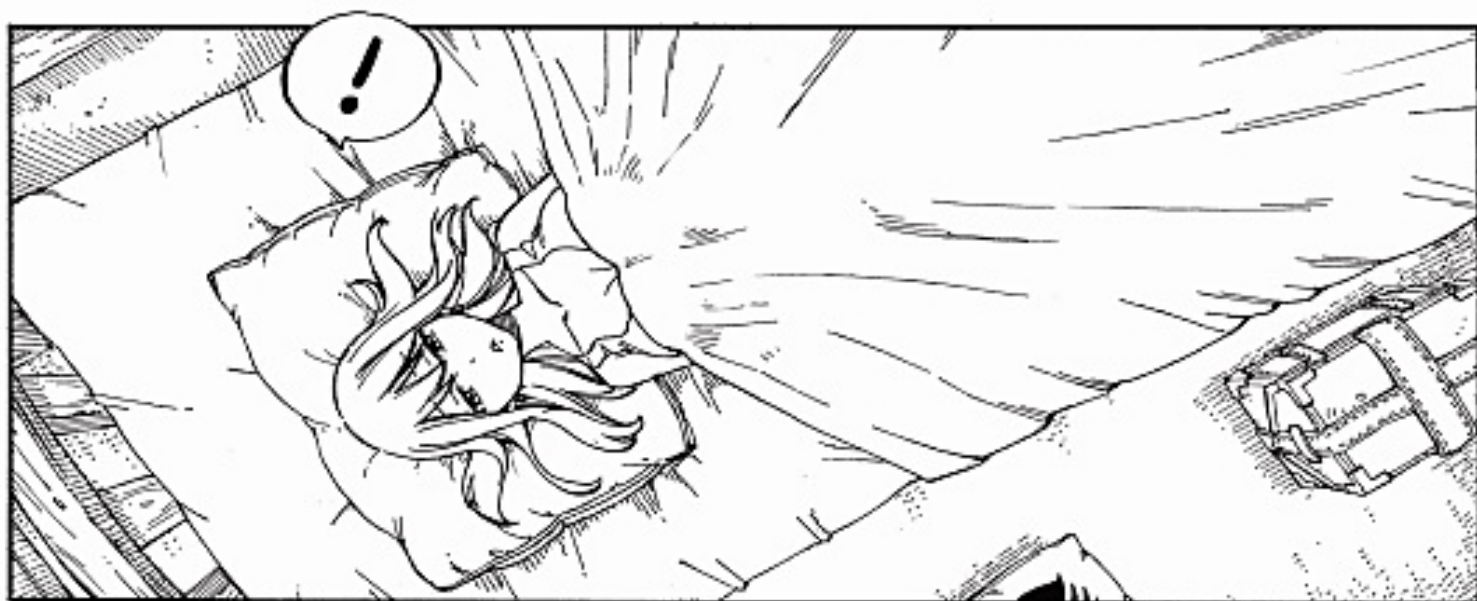
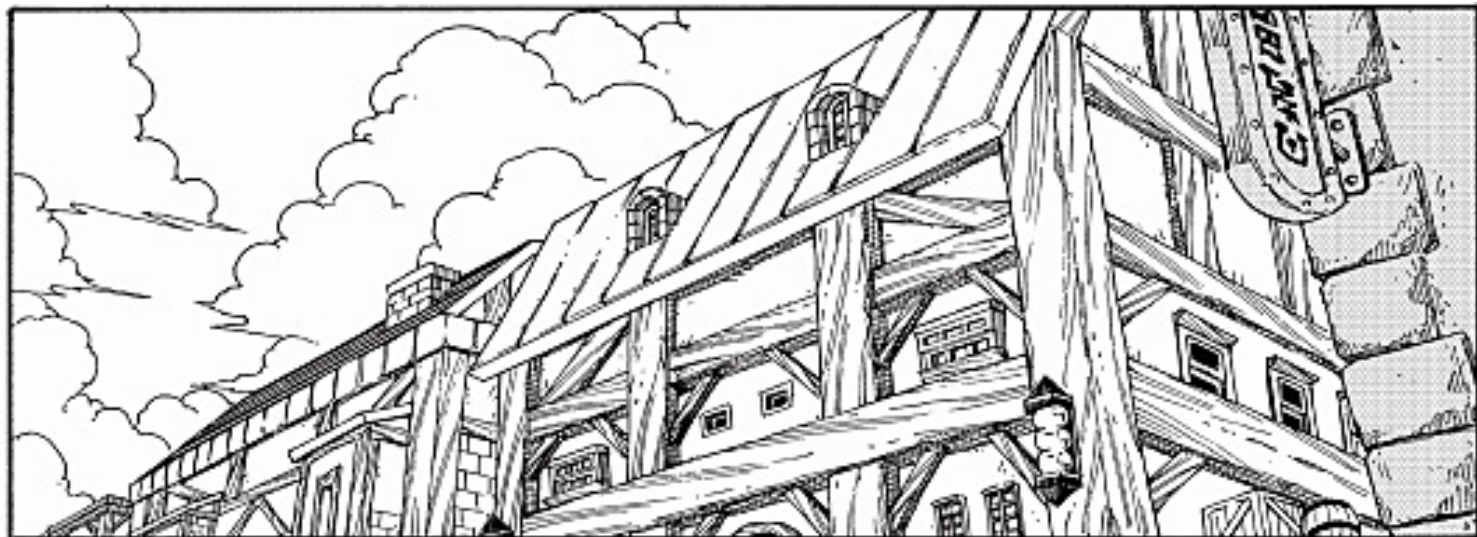




What a nice
feeling... like
a warm hug!

Aww!
Happiness
is breaking
out all
over!





It can't be
that it was all a
dream? That's
too cliché...!

Um...
What's the
last thing I
remember?



I'm
in my
room?

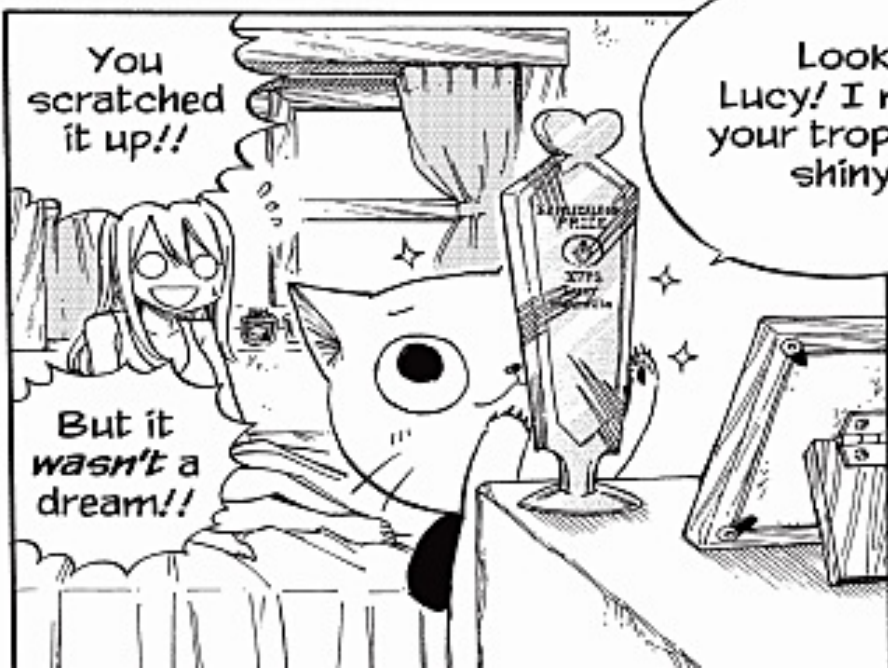
**This
is my
room!!!!**

GWAAH

Yo!



Why are
the two of
you in my
room?!



You
scratched
it up!!

But it
wasn't a
dream!!

Look,
Lucy! I made
your trophy all
shiny!





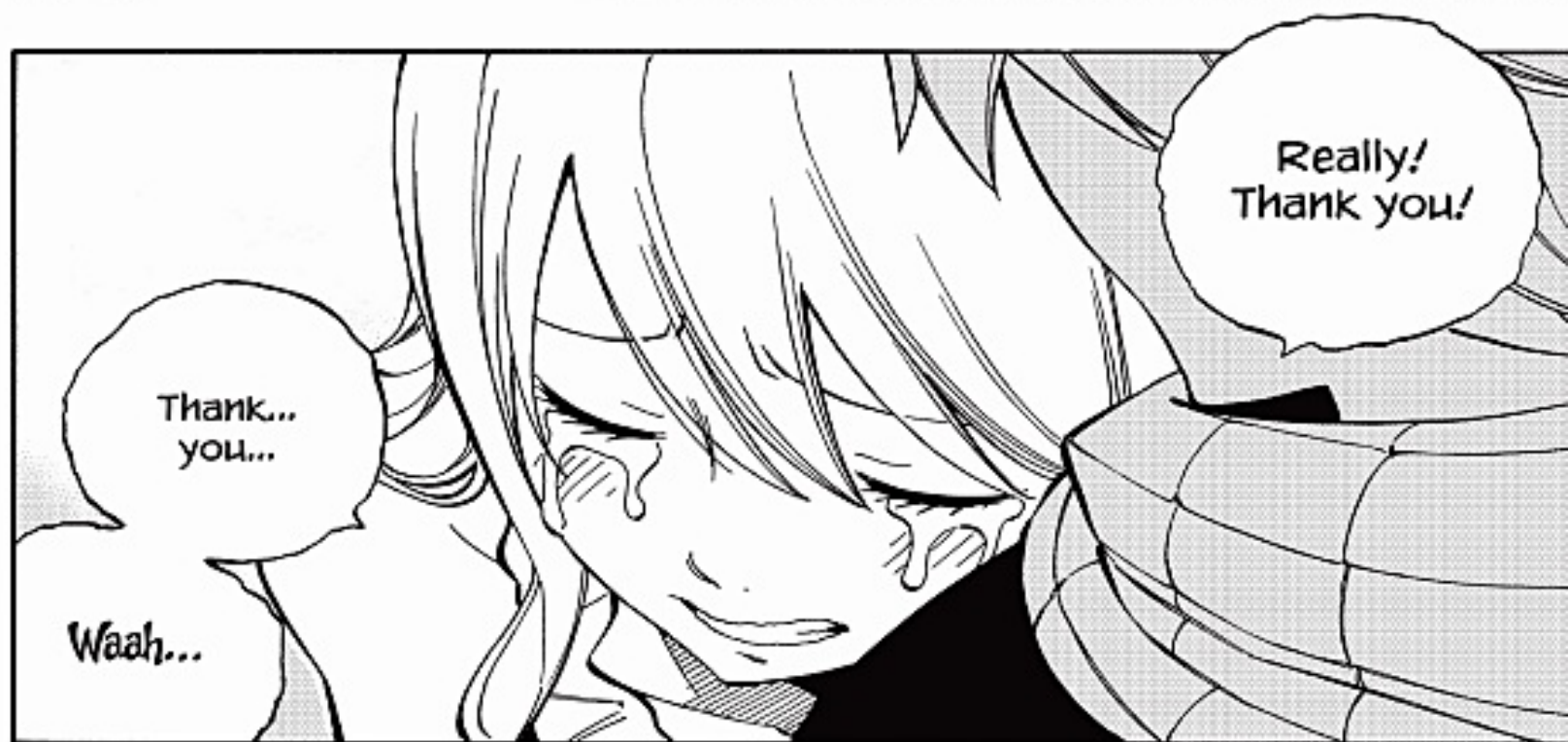


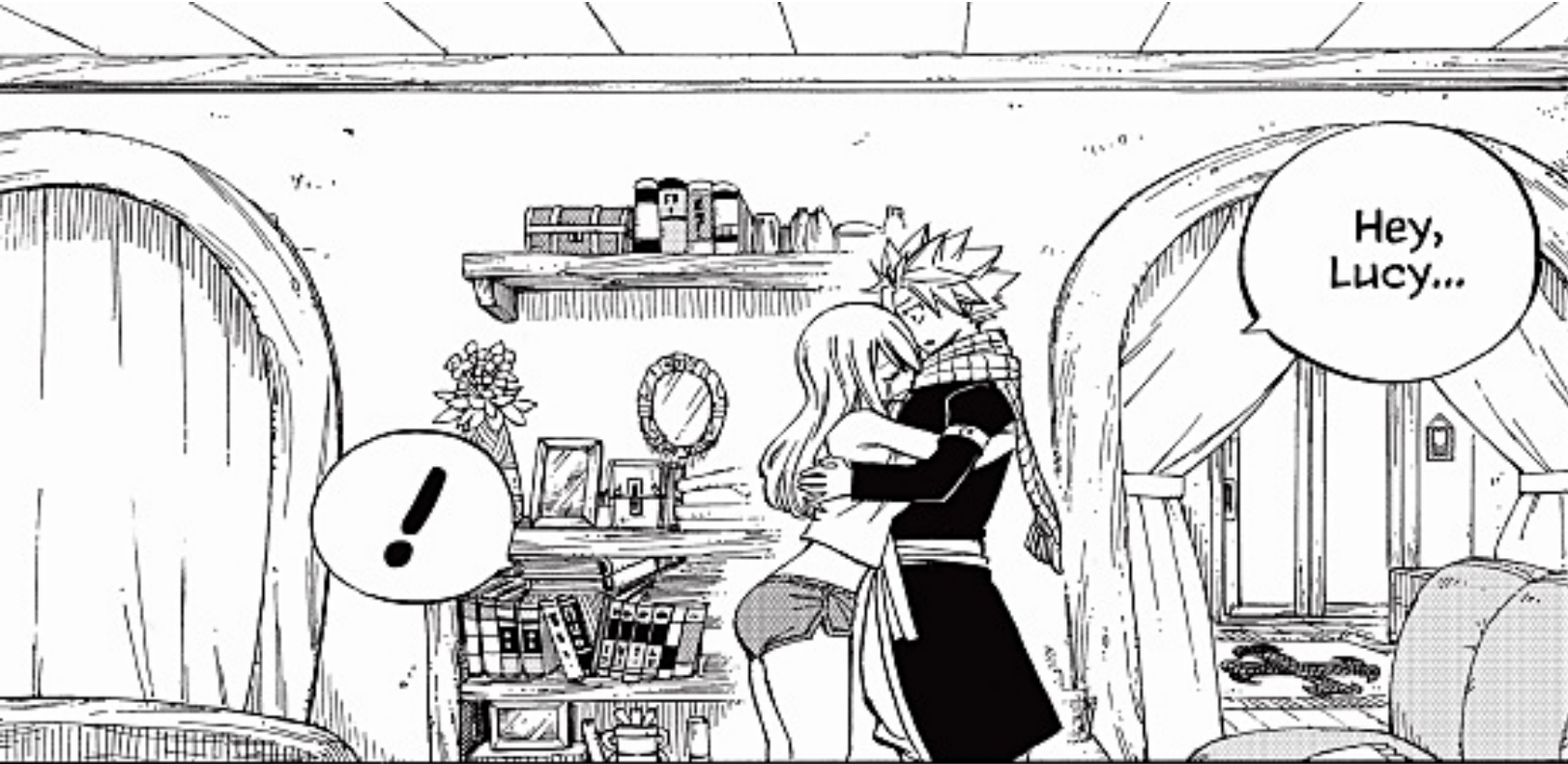
If I
never met
you and
Happy...



...I wouldn't
be who I am
today!











*On the
Century
Quest
!!!!*



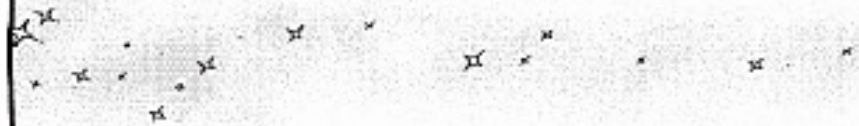
***I'm all
fired
up!!!!***





*The question
of whether
fairies have
tails or not...*

*Or even
the more
basic, do
fairies even
exist...*



*...is an
eternal
mystery,
and an
eternal
adventure.*

*It's
with that
thought
that the
guild is
named.*

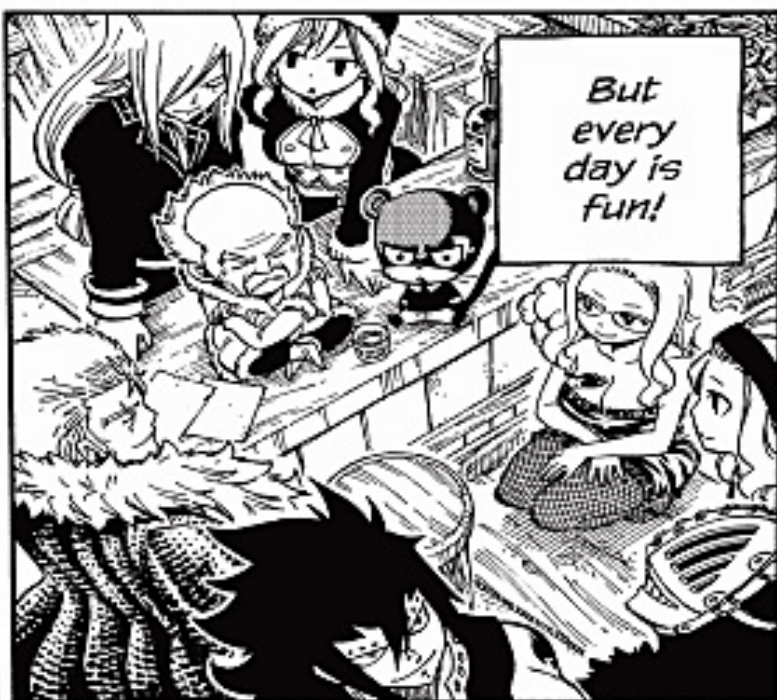
FAIRY TAIL



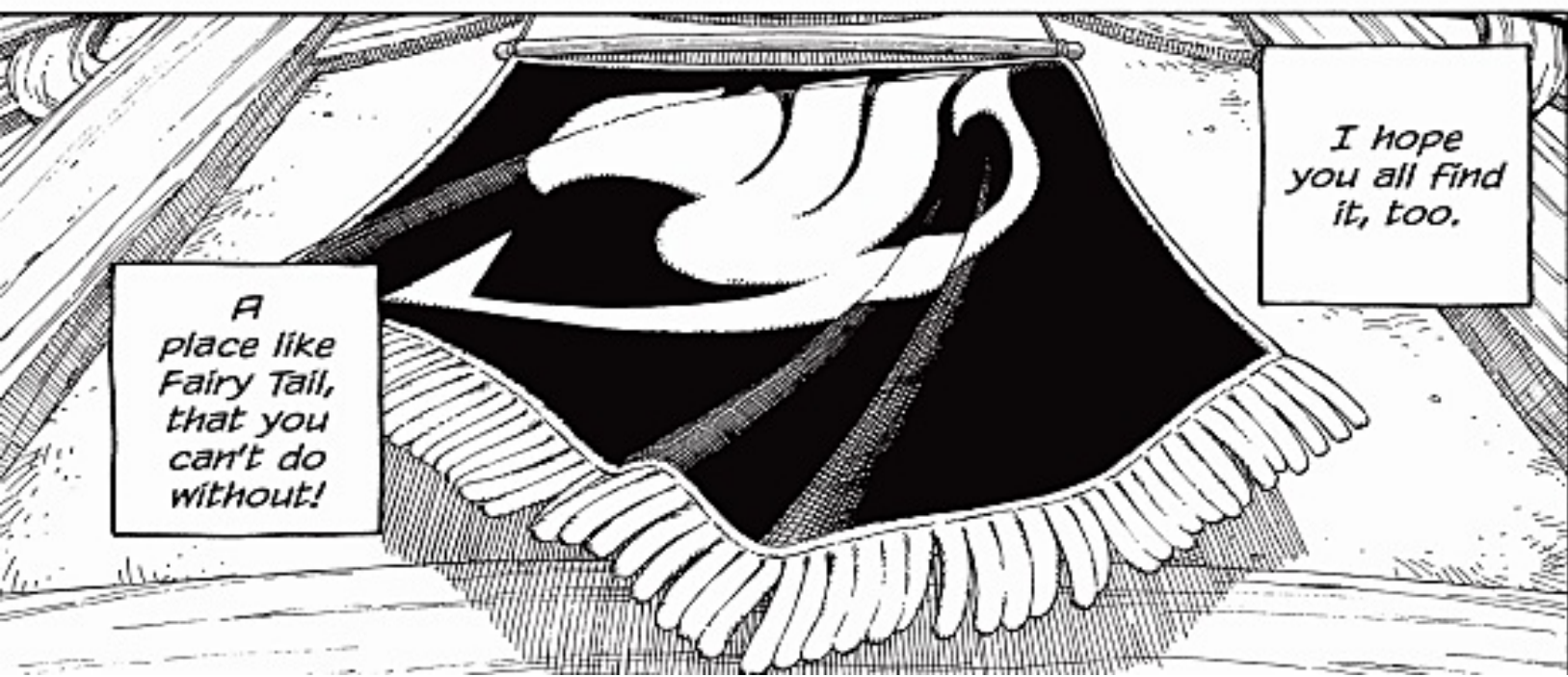
Despite the cute name, it's a boisterous and rough guild.



And personally, I love it!!



But every day is fun!



A place like Fairy Tail, that you can't do without!

I hope you all find it, too.

*With
friends
that you
love!*

See you!
♡



THE END

Thank you to all the fans



Hiro Mashima

STAFF

Bobby Ohsawa
Shin Mikuni
Yui Ueda
Harami
Kina Kobayashi
Chiko
Marimo Enda
Kenji Okada
Cain

SPECIAL THANKS

Koji Nakamura
Miki Yoshikawa
Kondo

AND MORE!!

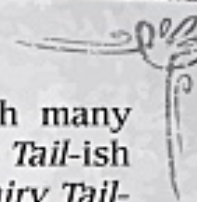
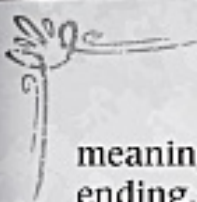
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Tomohiro Uchida

Takeharu Yoshida
Shu Hashimoto
Takeshi Ozawa

Yuiko Toriumi (COMICS)
Hideki Morooka (COMICS)
Eriko Nozawa (COMICS)





I wanted to infuse the final chapter of this series with many meanings, but in the end, it sort of came out to be a very *Fairy Tail*-ish ending. I'm sure each reader has their own thoughts on what is "*Fairy Tail*-ish," but when drawing the ending, I prioritized what I felt was *Fairy Tail*-ish. It's the end, so it's okay, right? I really love happy endings. I know that there are characters who often get caught in miserable situations, and there are a lot of characters who look like they're heading toward sad endings, but still I love happy endings. So barring any unforeseen crises, my stories are going to end happily (haha).

As for what I'm doing after this, I'd like to explain my current situation. At the time I'm writing this, it's been four months since I finished serialization, but I still can't seem to find spare time. I know some might say, "Well, since you're not drawing *Fairy Tail*, what can you be doing?!" and I can only answer that I've been working. I can't announce it yet, but I've been drawing a lot. I've also been doing preparatory work for the new series such as watching movies, playing games, and reading books. Although doing those things are my hobbies, the part that makes this not my hobby is that I'm not limiting myself to works that I know I will like. And I am getting ideas and new sketches from this endeavor.

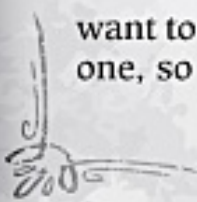
Aside from that, I've taken foreign business trips and had meetings regarding the anime, games, and goods, so much so that I feel busier than when I was drawing the series. And because of that, it looks like I will have to put off my long-held plan of taking it easy for a while right after I finished drawing the series.

So, with my internal drive to hurry up and get back to drawing manga colliding with my impulse to take it easy for a while (including staying healthy), I haven't figured things out myself yet. But I have to say that everyday has turned out pretty fun.

And so, with the support of all you readers, we come to the denouement of *Fairy Tail*. I want to ask, what did you think? I imagine your opinions are wide and varied. Maybe you've talked it over with your family or friends, and that's cool. So is talking it over on internet message boards, or just coming up with your own *Fairy Tail* ideas that you alone enjoy. That's good, too.

You can send me letters or try to send me your thoughts directly on Twitter. All of your opinions and impressions will come to resonate with the new work I'm coming up with.

I truly want to thank you for supporting me for such a long time! I want to assure you that the next series will be even more interesting than this one, so please look forward to it! So for a short while, see you later!



Afterword

With this volume, *Fairy Tail* comes to a close. I want to thank you all for supporting it this whole long time.

The first thing I want to do is deeply apologize on behalf of myself and the *Fairy Tail* editorial team for giving away portions of the plot in the Afterword section of the last volume (in the first printing of the Japanese-language edition only). I'm sure it was a great shock to many fans who were waiting patiently to read the story for themselves, and I'm very sorry.

Now, this story has gone on a very long time. At first, I had planned for it to only last around ten volumes, but between the fan's reactions and my own desire to draw more of it, 11 years and 63 volumes passed before I knew it. I think the only way it could have gone on so long was thanks to all you fans.

To tell the truth, there were periods when I thought I could draw *Fairy Tail* for the rest of my life, but at some point I thought, "Can't you come up with something even more interesting?" and that was the trigger that led to *Fairy Tail's* conclusion. I hadn't thought up even one character for this new world, nor had I written even a word of it. It was the challenge of starting from zero that brought out the great feelings of anticipation that still haven't settled down yet.

It was about two years ago, at the beginning of the Alvarez arc, that I had a discussion with the staff and editor-in-chief and let them know that this would be the final story arc of the series. They were sad, but they came around when it became apparent that I was passionate about doing something new.

Well, it's true that after drawing the series for so long, I would feel a little sad at its end, too, but even after the magazine serialization finished, what with one thing and another, I found myself still drawing Natsu and Lucy quite a lot. And because they're still working on the final season of the anime, it still doesn't feel like *Fairy Tail* is "over."

Come to think of it, there are many people asking me to write a sequel series to *Fairy Tail*, but as of now, there are absolutely no plans for it at all. It's possible that I might consider it after a number of years have passed, but right after the series has finally come to an end is no time to start thinking about continuations.

Although I won't be drawing more *Fairy Tail* myself, it's certainly possible for a different artist to draw it. If that does happen, I'll be doing everything I can to help out with it, so if such a book comes about, I'd like you to consider picking it up.

Thank you so much for
being enthusiastic readers
all the way to the end!



FAIRY TAIL 63



FROM HIRO MASHIMA



"It's over!" "The drawings are all done!" —
These feelings of accomplishment
haven't quite hit me yet. This
volume represents the end of the
original *Fairy Tail* story, but from
now on the *Fairy Tail* world will
continue with other things like
anime, games, goods, events, and
maybe even new spinoff manga...?
Natsu and Lucy will still be in our
hearts. With that in mind, I wonder
how the fairies' long journey will
ultimately conclude? I hope you'll
look forward to it!

Original Jacket Design: Hisao Ogawa



フェアリーテイル

FAIRY TAIL S

For the members of Fairy Tail, a guild member's work is never done. While they may not always be away on missions, that doesn't mean our magic-wielding heroes can rest easy at home. What happens when a copycat thief begins to soil the good name of Fairy Tail, or when a seemingly unstoppable virus threatens the citizens of Magnolia? And when a bet after the Grand Magic Games goes sour, can Natsu, Lucy, Gray, and Erza turn the tables in their favor? Come see what a "day in the life" of the strongest guild in Fiore is like in nine brand new short stories!



KC
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COMICS

A collection of *Fairy Tail* short stories drawn by original creator Hiro Mashima!

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FAIRY TAIL

BLUE MISTRAL

Wendy's Very Own Fairy Tail!

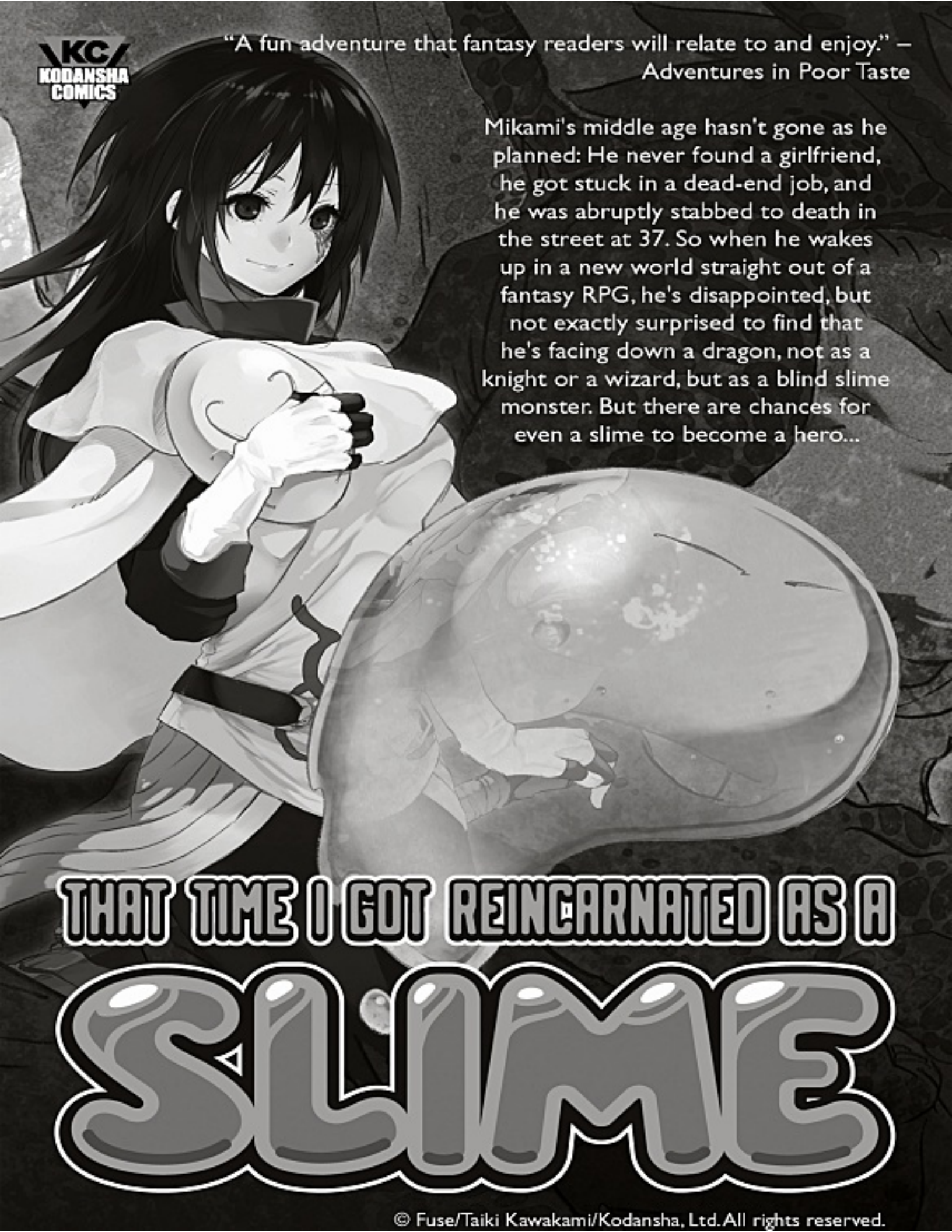
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THAT TIME I GOT REINCARNATED AS A SLIME

Fairy Tail 63

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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Shadowcat

